

## **CONTENT WARNING**

THIS EPISODE DEPICTS  
MANIPULATION AND ANTAGONISM, RESULTING  
IN A CHARACTER'S PSYCHOLOGICAL DISTRESS,  
WHICH MAY BE UPSETTING FOR  
SOME READERS. PLEASE PROCEED  
WITH CAUTION.



LORE CIVILIZ



# LORE OLYMPUS

CREATED BY RACHEL SMYTHE  
EDITED BY BRE BOSWELL

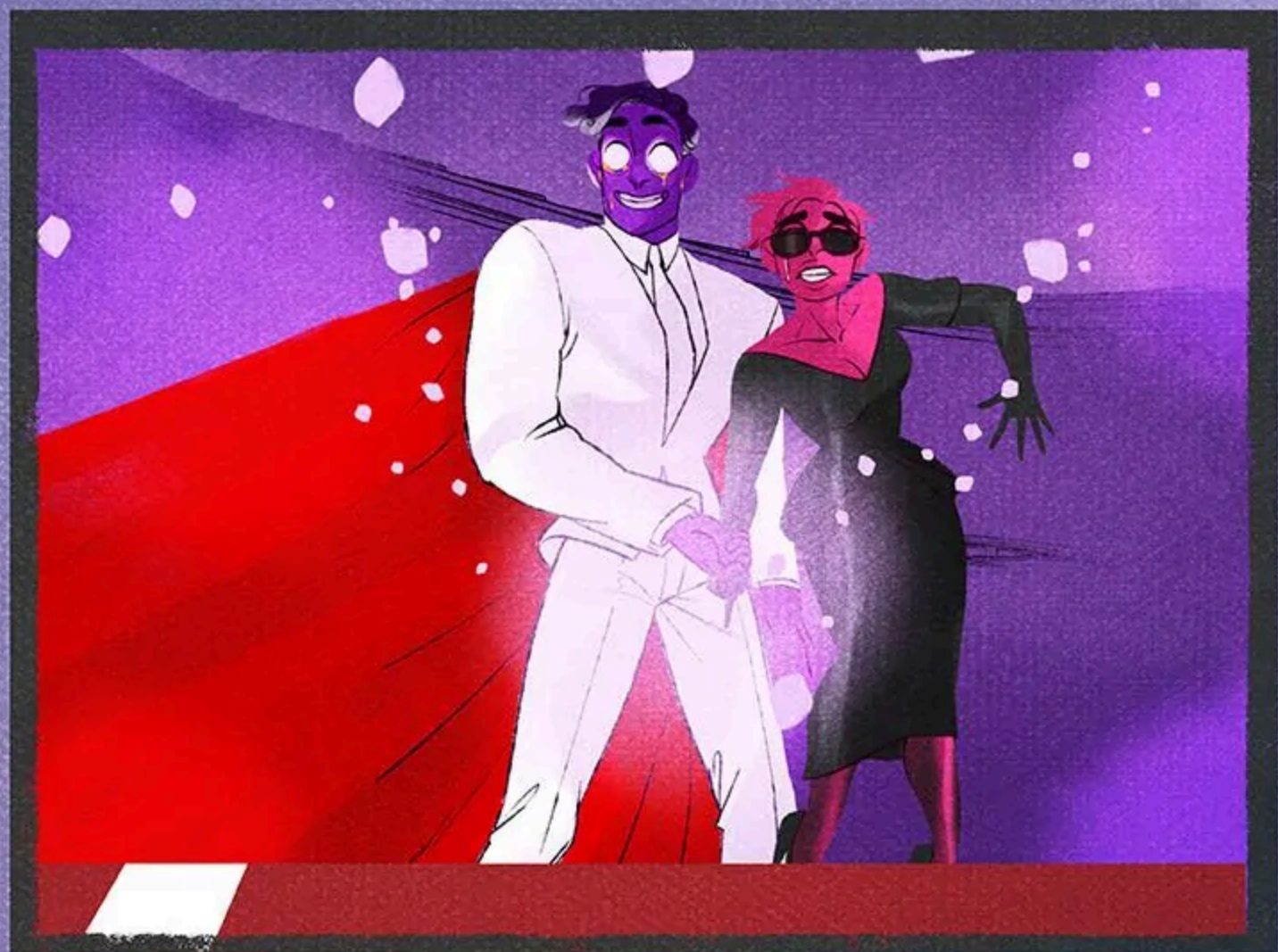
**EPISODE 268:** TWELVE HOURS

Gasp!









**\*TIGHTEN\***





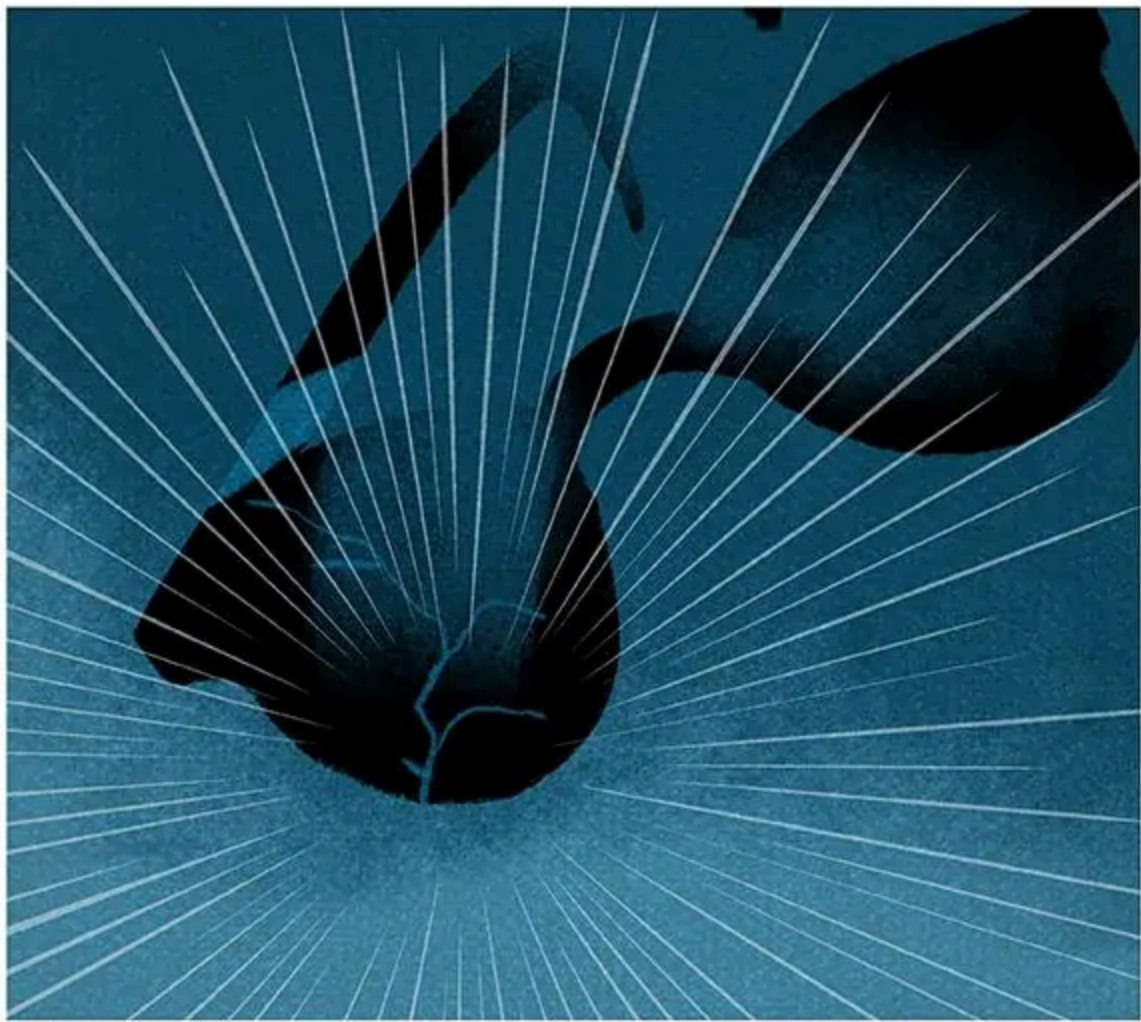




And there you  
have it!










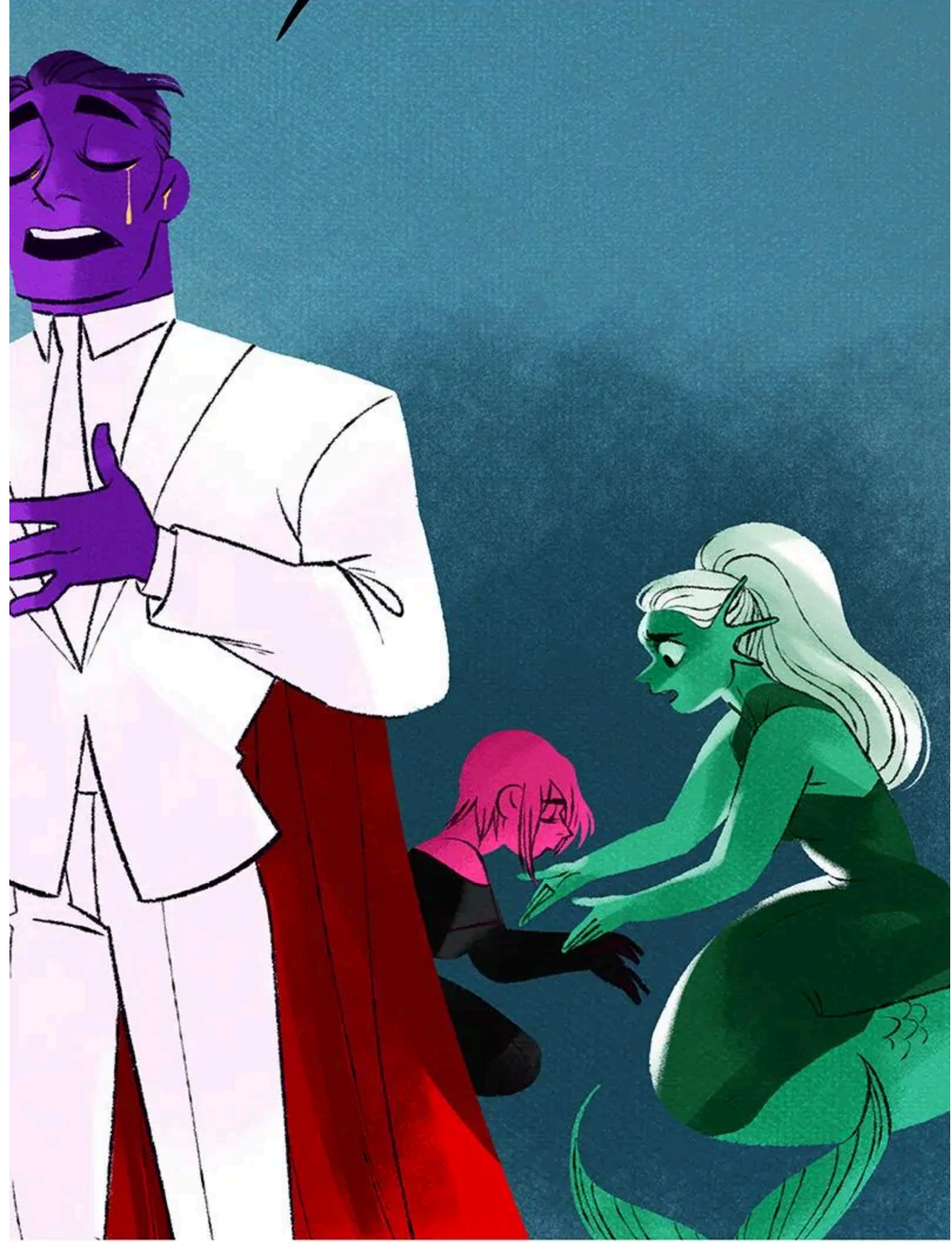
Persephone!



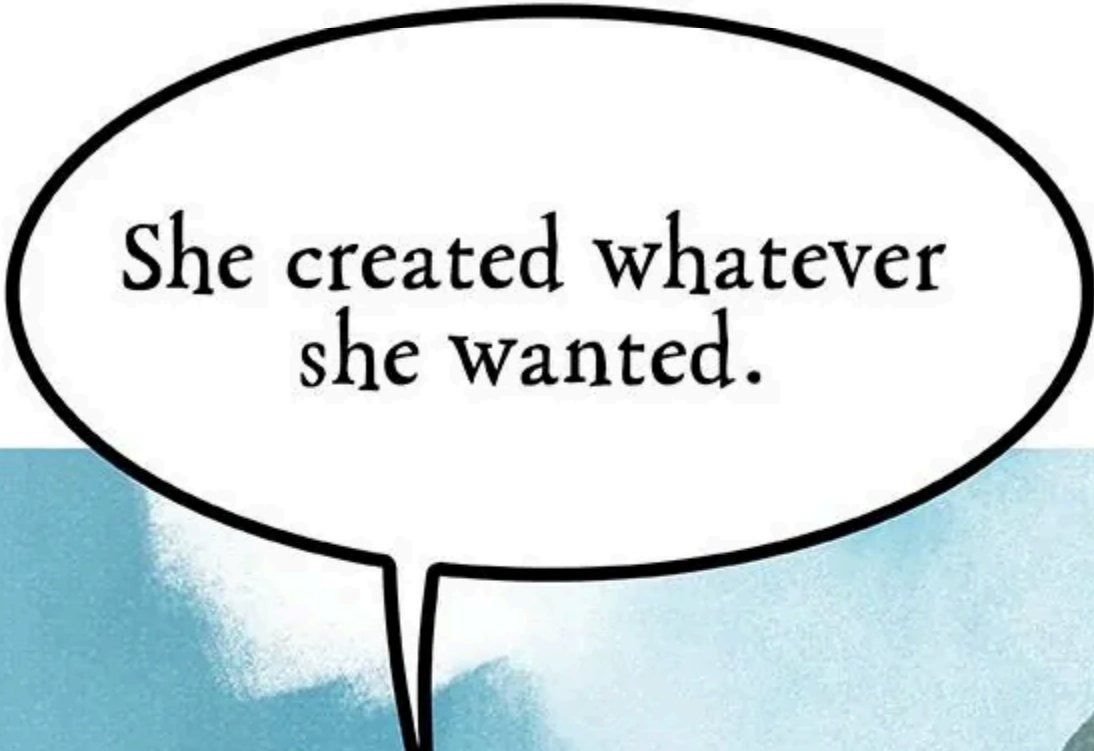
A large, hand-drawn speech bubble with a black outline. It has a long tail pointing downwards and to the left, ending at a small blue horizontal line at the bottom of the page. The text inside is in a black serif font.

Thousands of years ago,  
Gaia walked the earth,  
powerful yet reckless.

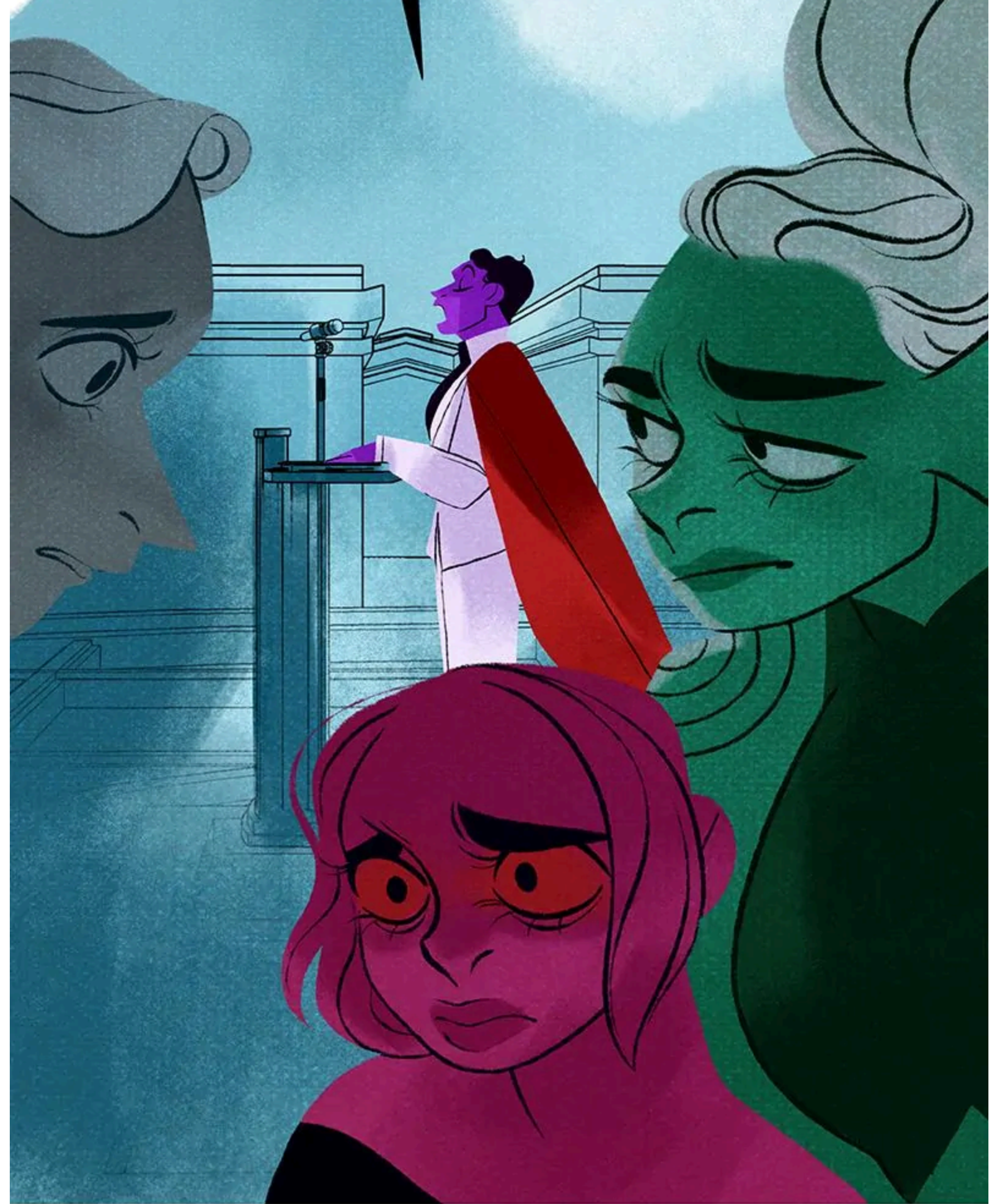


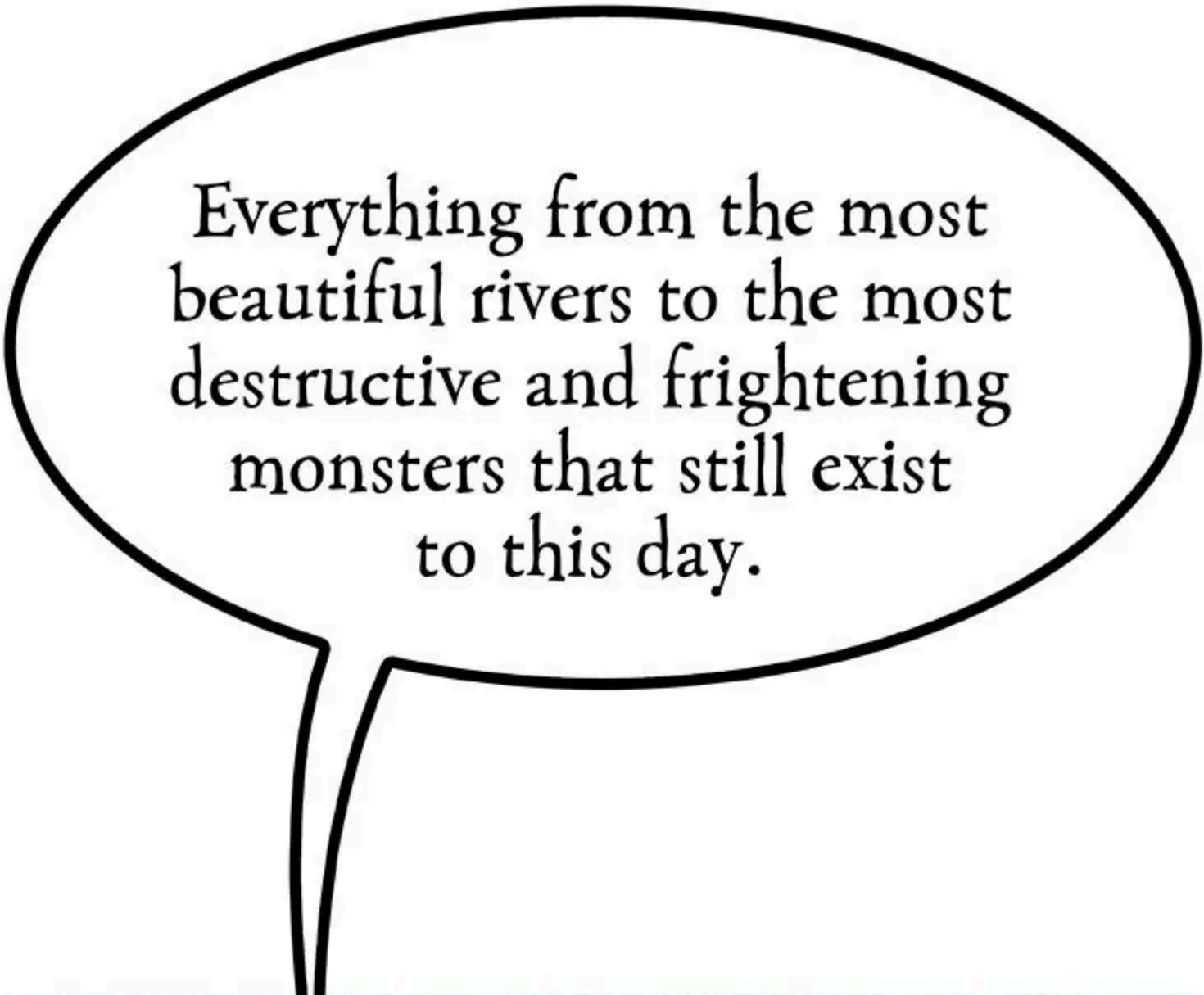






She created whatever  
she wanted.




A black and white illustration of a speech bubble. The bubble is an oval shape with a tail pointing downwards and to the left. Inside the bubble, there is a paragraph of text in a serif font.

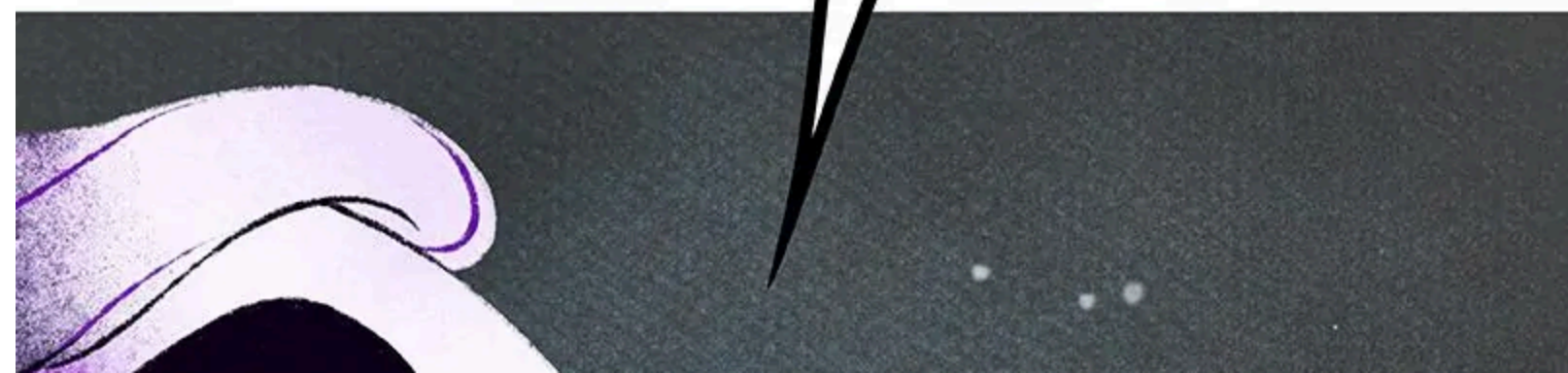
Everything from the most  
beautiful rivers to the most  
destructive and frightening  
monsters that still exist  
to this day.







Gaia was a force unlike any  
other; that is true.









But she still needed  
structure, boundaries...  
limitations.





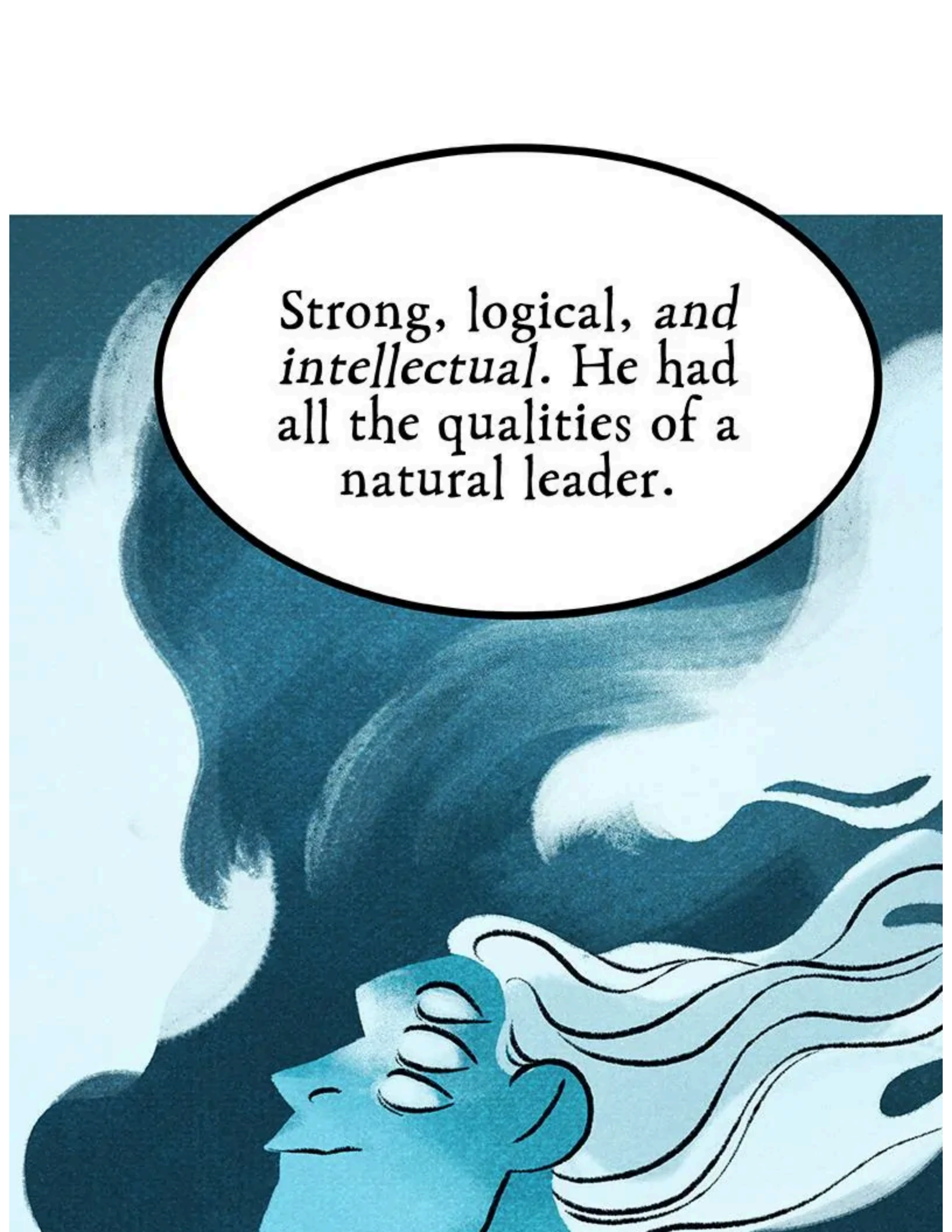


That's when Ouranos, the sky  
god and my great-grandfather,  
stepped up to help her.









Strong, logical, *and intellectual*. He had all the qualities of a natural leader.







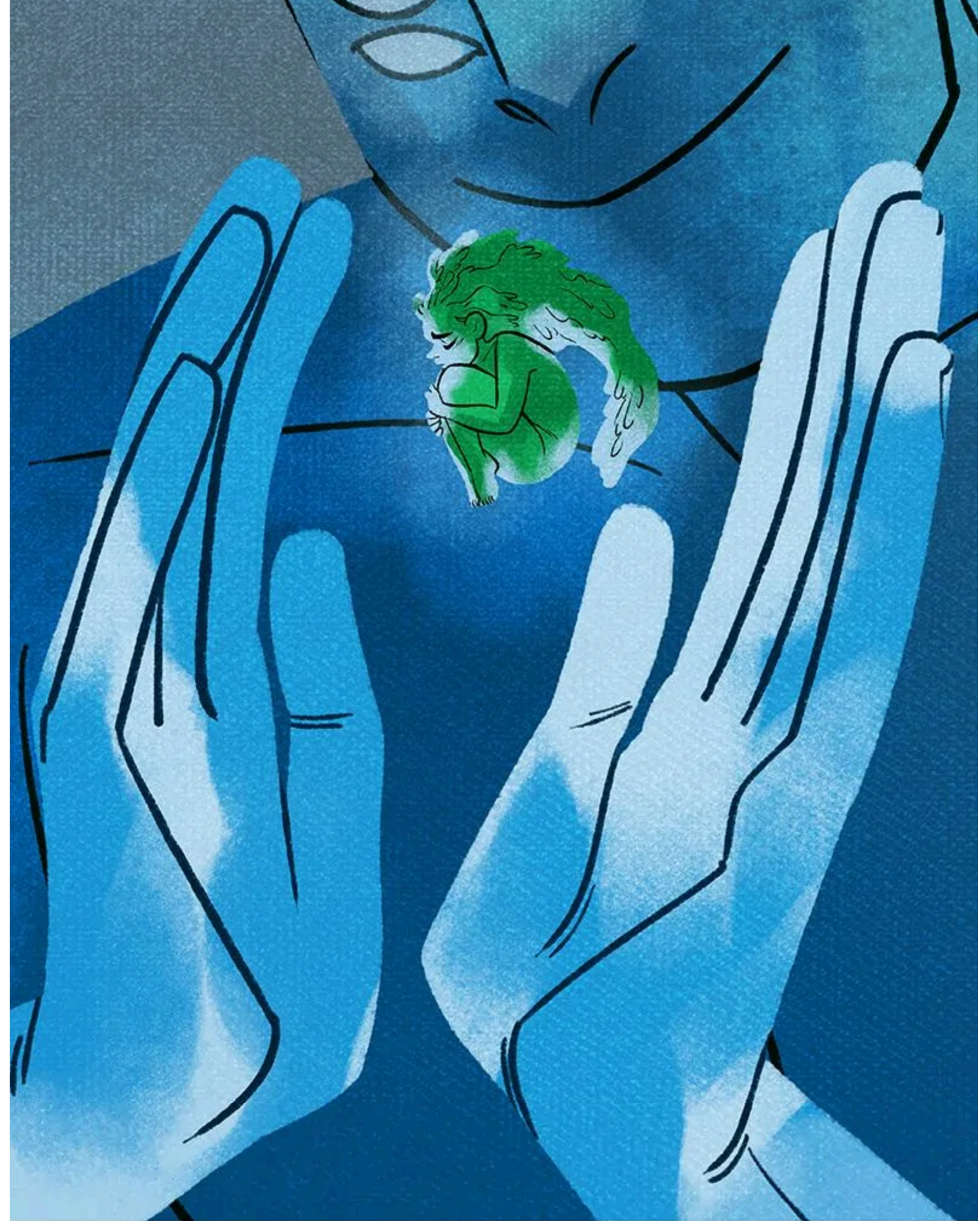
He created a union of



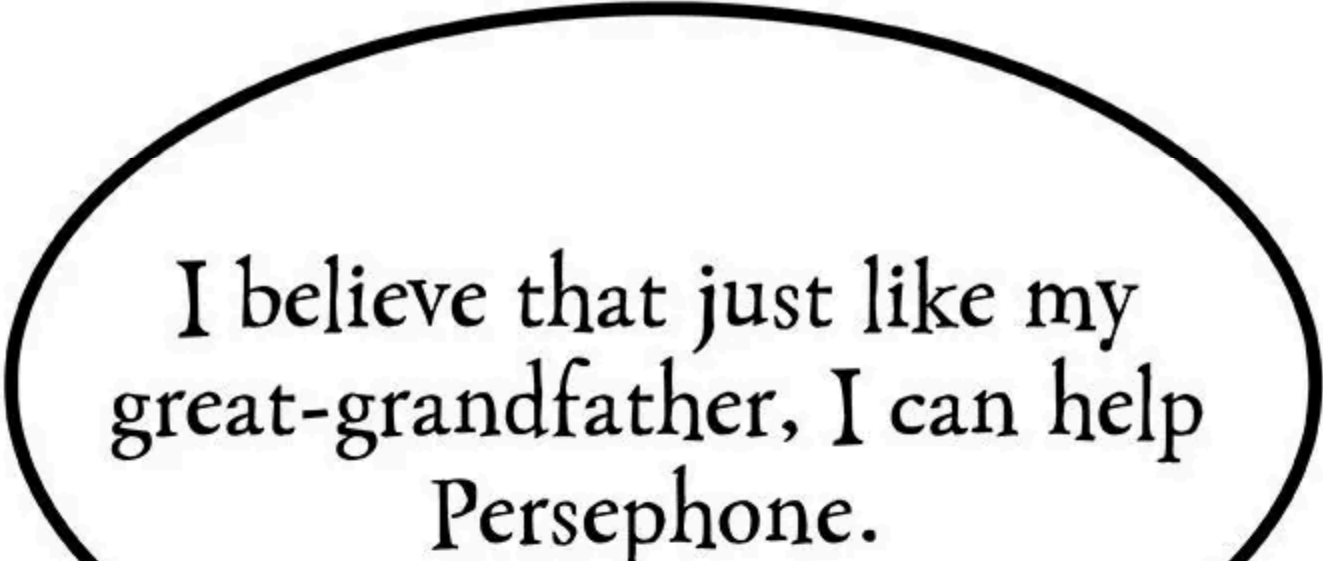
He created a union of  
love with Gaia, helping  
to control her powers  
and usher in an age of  
harmony for all  
the realms.







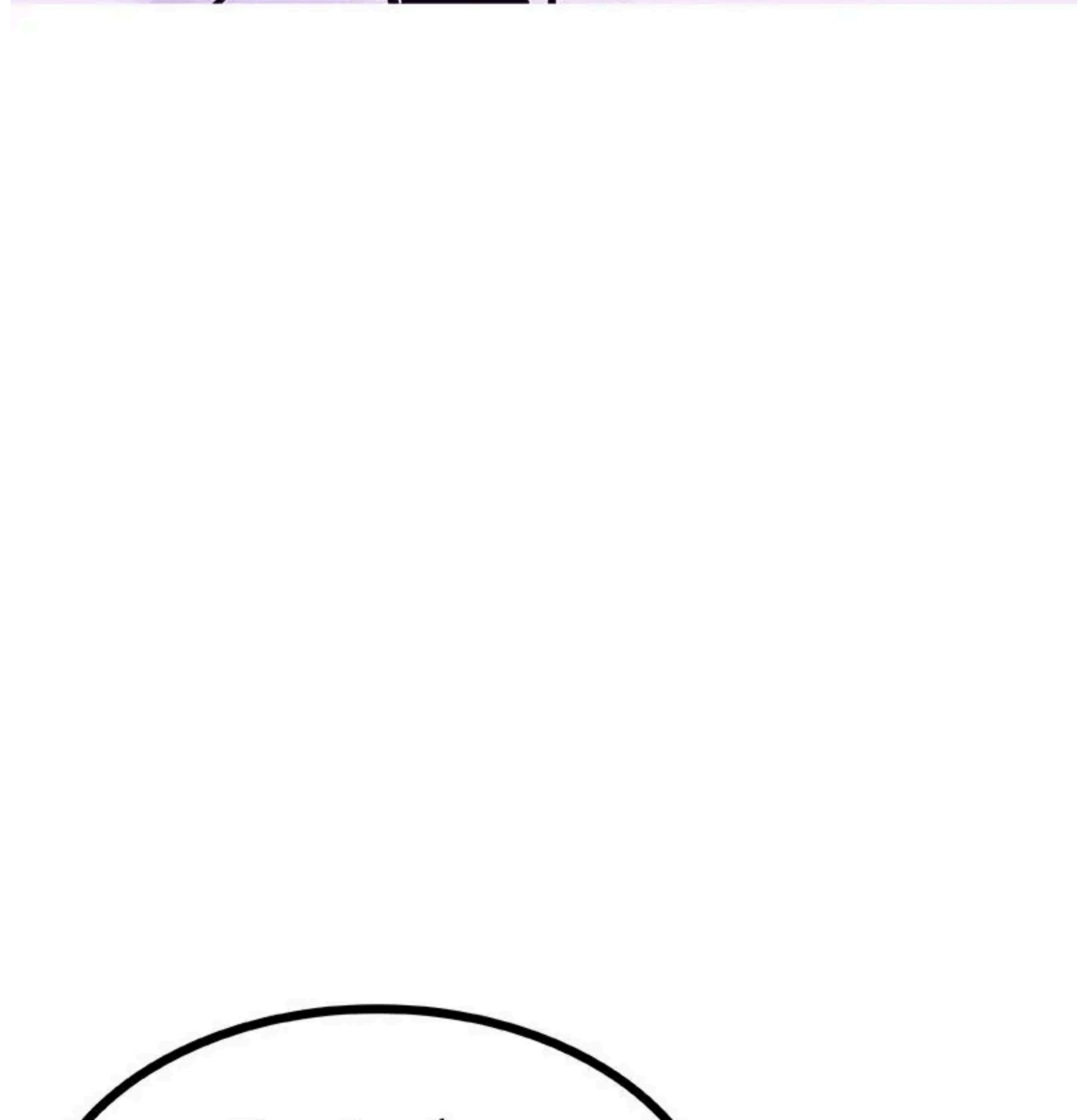




I believe that just like my  
great-grandfather, I can help  
Persephone.







Clearly, her  
union with Hades  
has damaged her  
powers.

And a union  
with me would  
heal them.







What are you saying?








I'm saying that  
Persephone's marriage to the  
King of the Underworld is  
annulled.

And that she is to  
be married to me.









But why does she  
need to be *married*  
to you?



Yeah.



You just showed  
you could do it  
before.

Yeah.







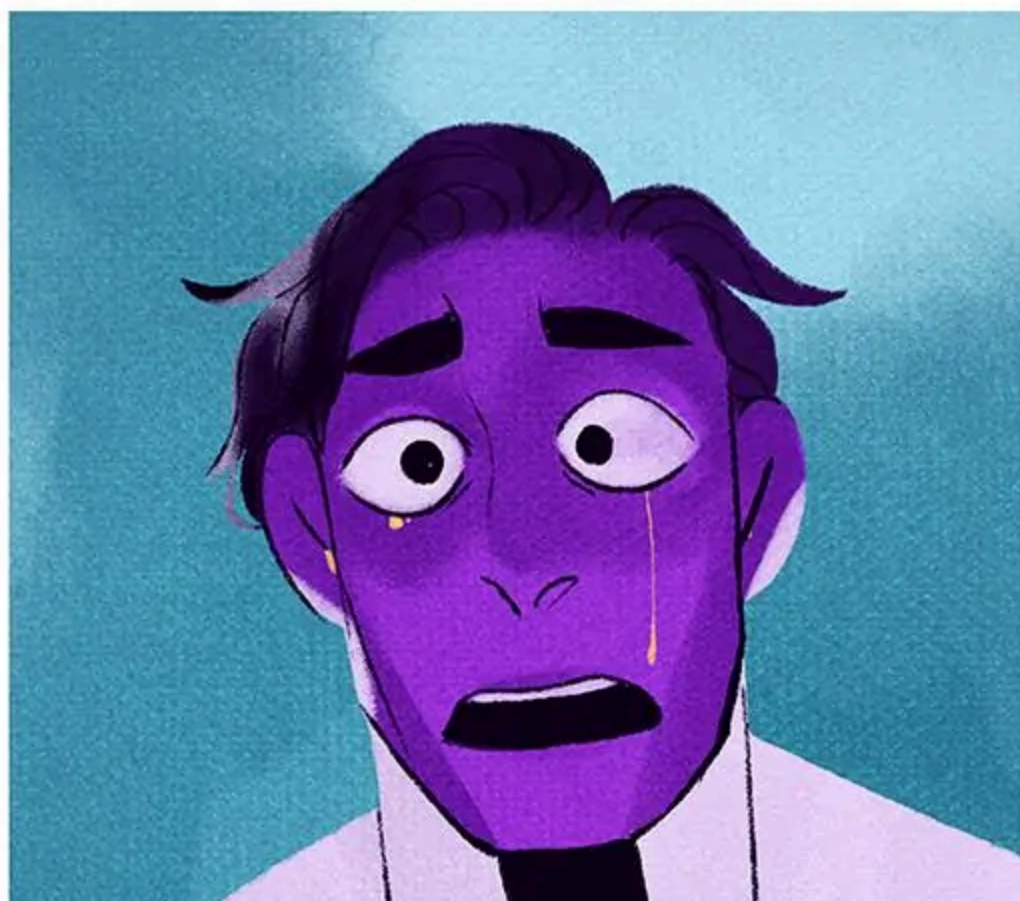
YEAH!







That's the limit of what  
I can do while she's still  
married to Hades.






But imagine  
what we could  
accomplish as  
King and Queen  
of Olympus.







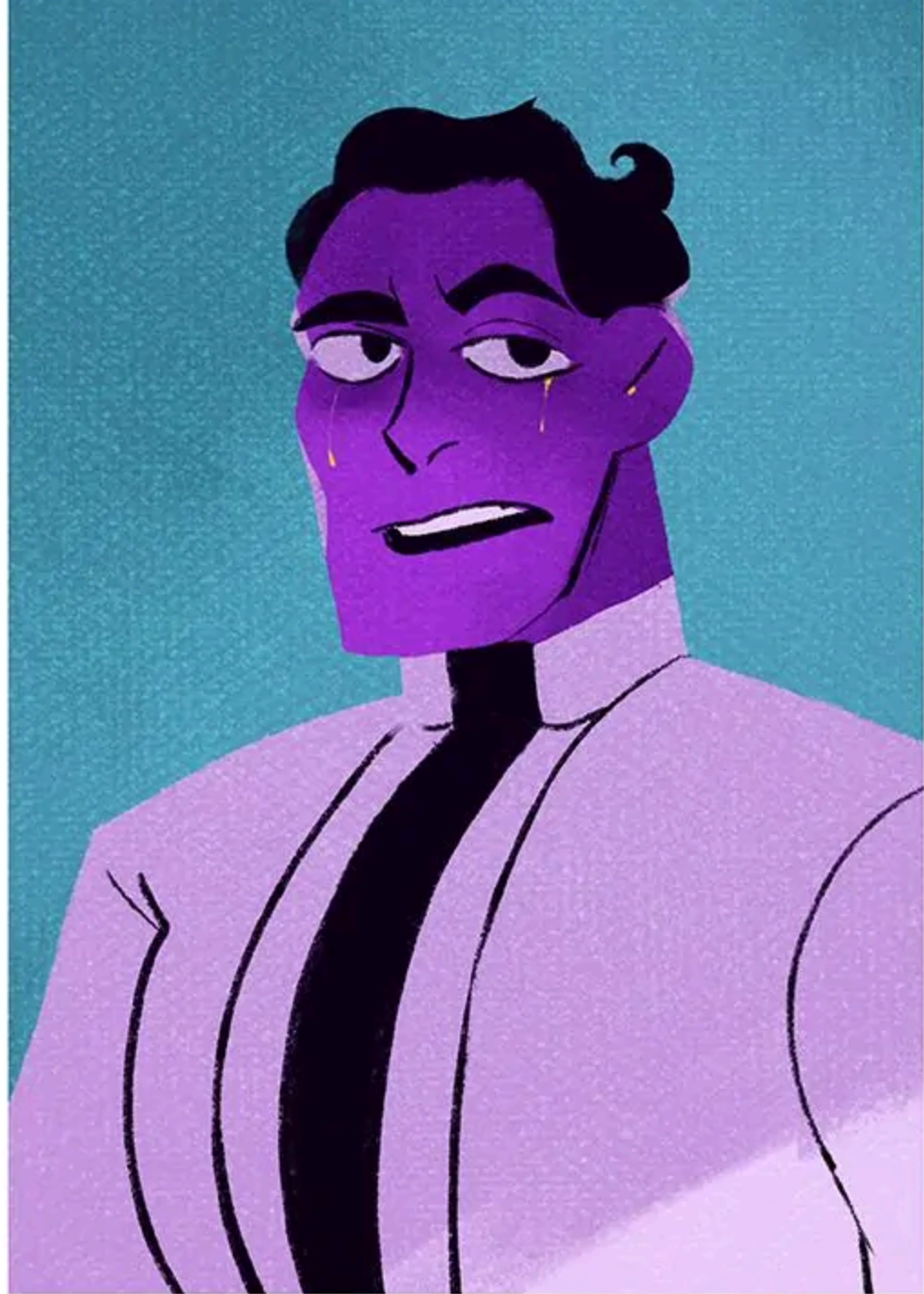
A character with long, wavy pink hair and large, expressive red eyes is shown in profile, looking upwards. The character's face is partially visible against a solid blue background. A large, white speech bubble with a black outline is positioned above the character's head, containing the text "I still plan to speak with Erebos!".

I still plan to  
speak with  
Erebos!

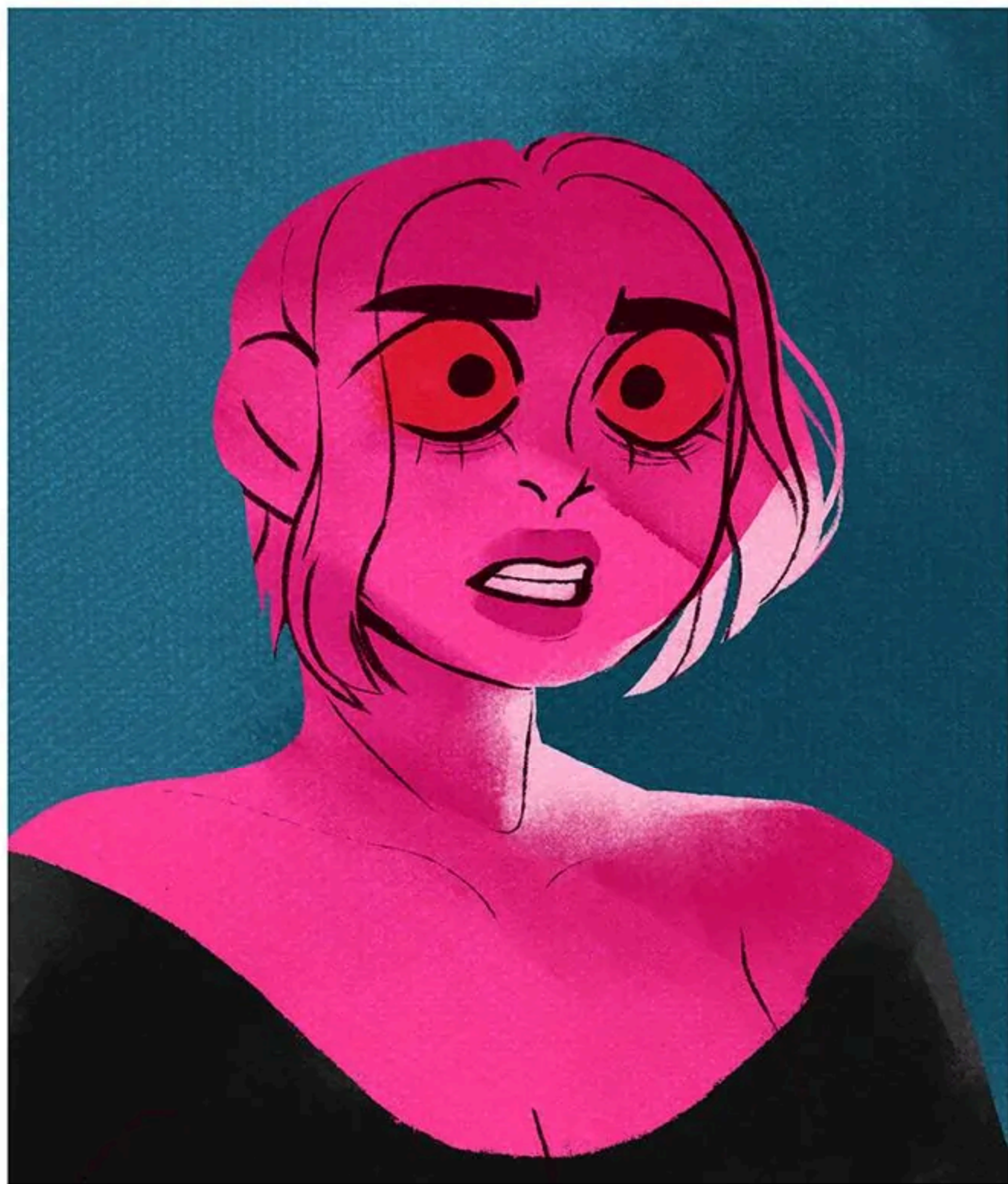


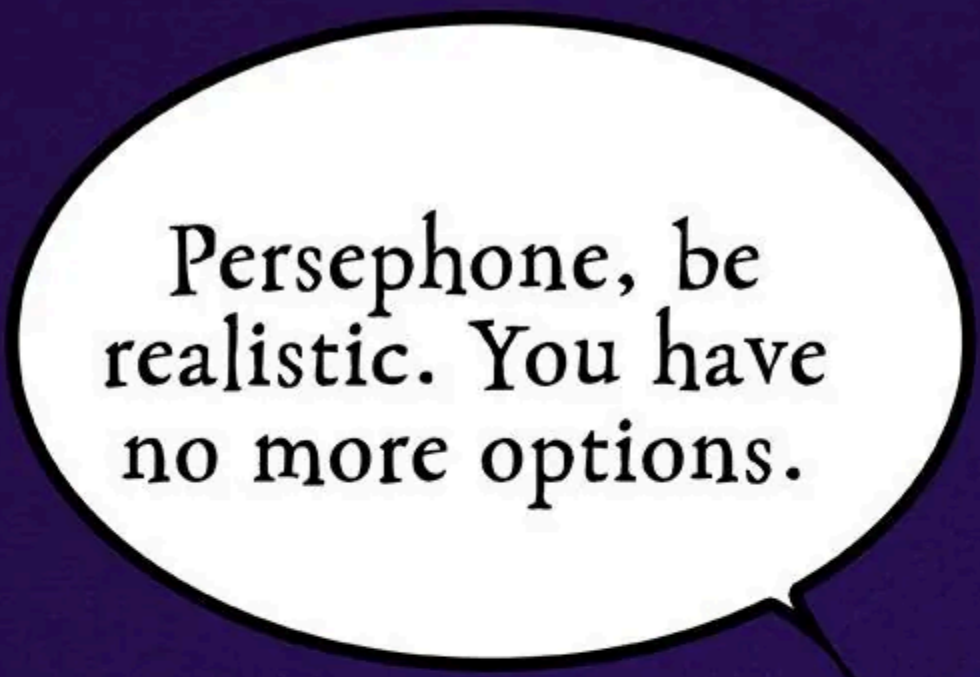


And how is that  
going?









Persephone, be  
realistic. You have  
no more options.





Your  
husband is  
gone,

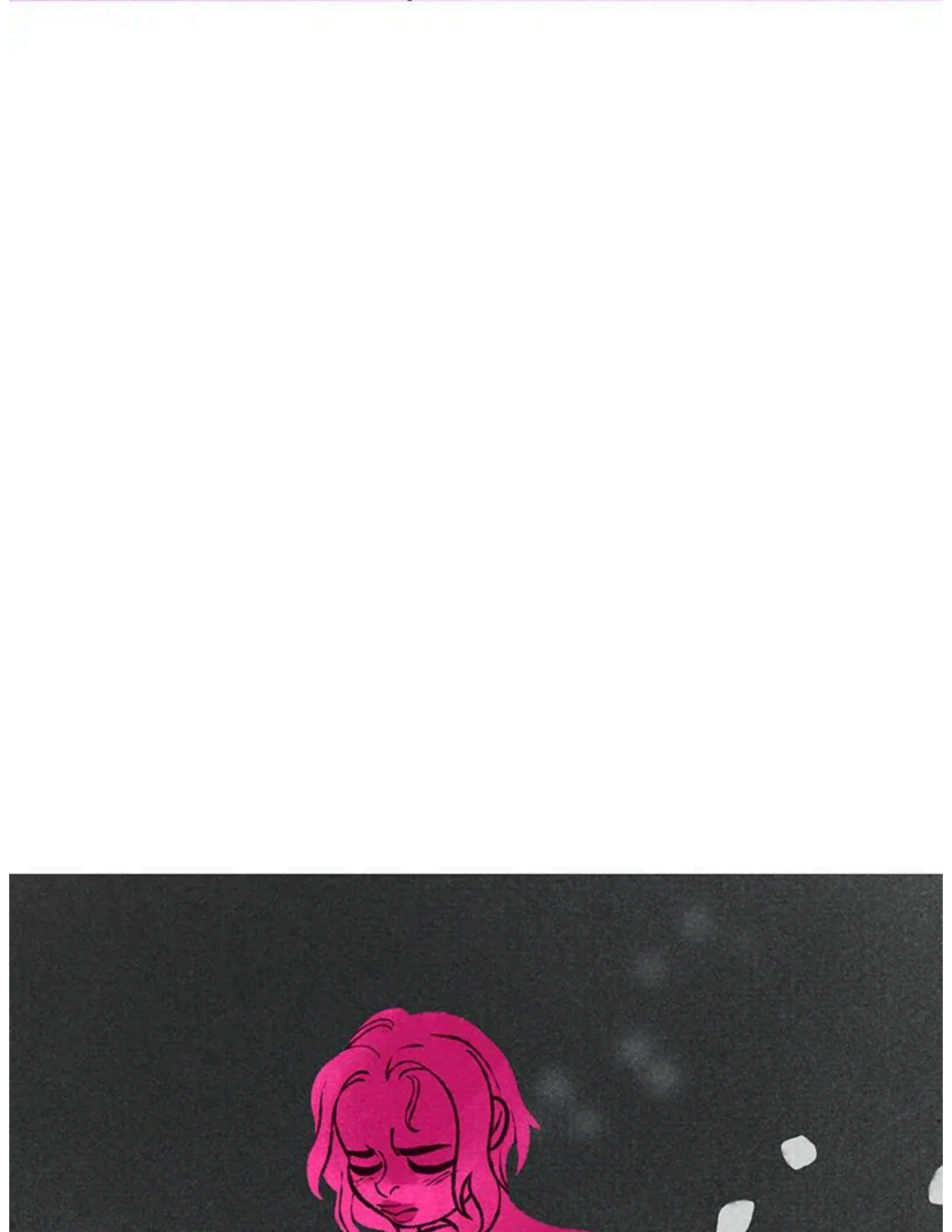
the drill  
didn't work,

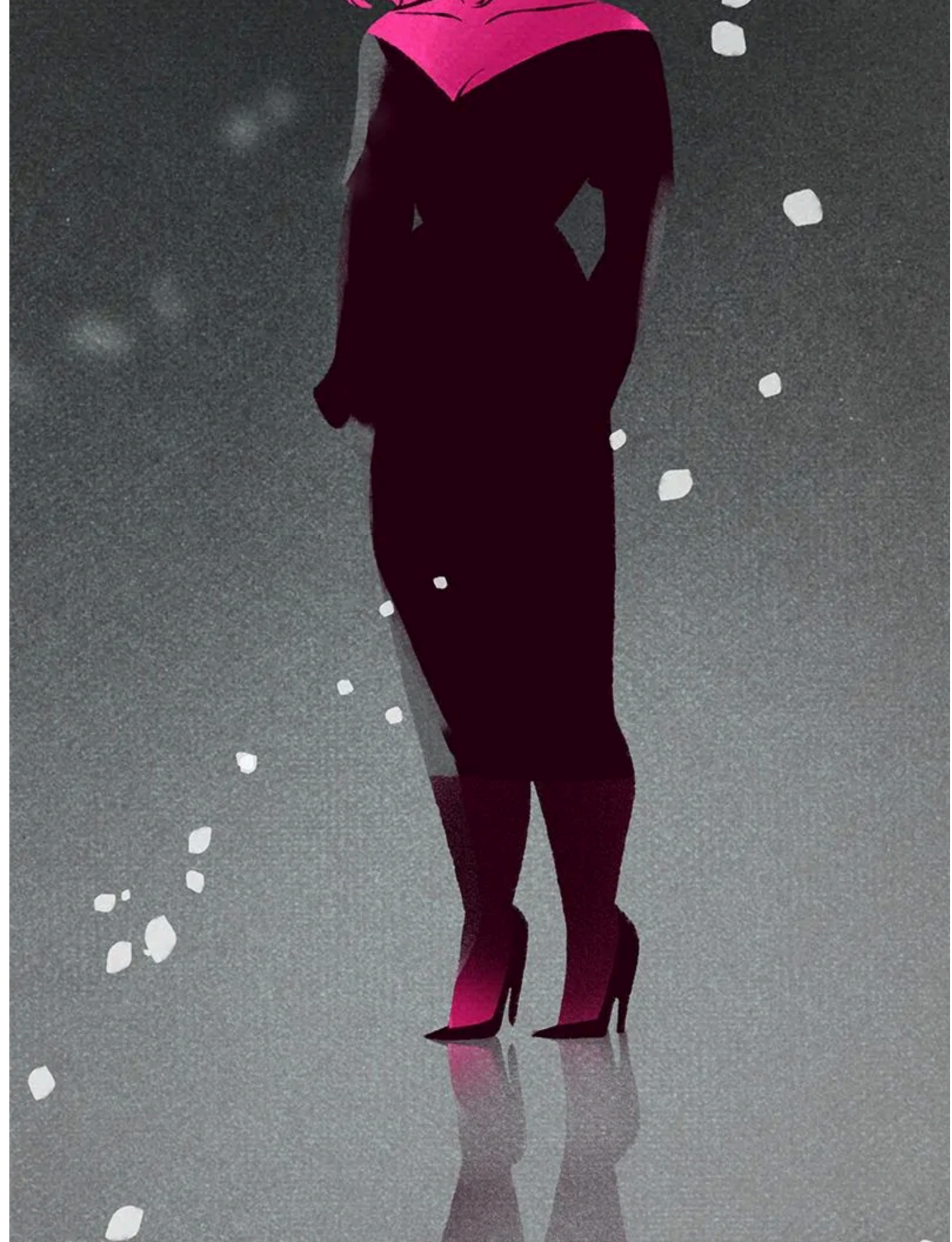
and you have no  
way of entering  
Tartarus.







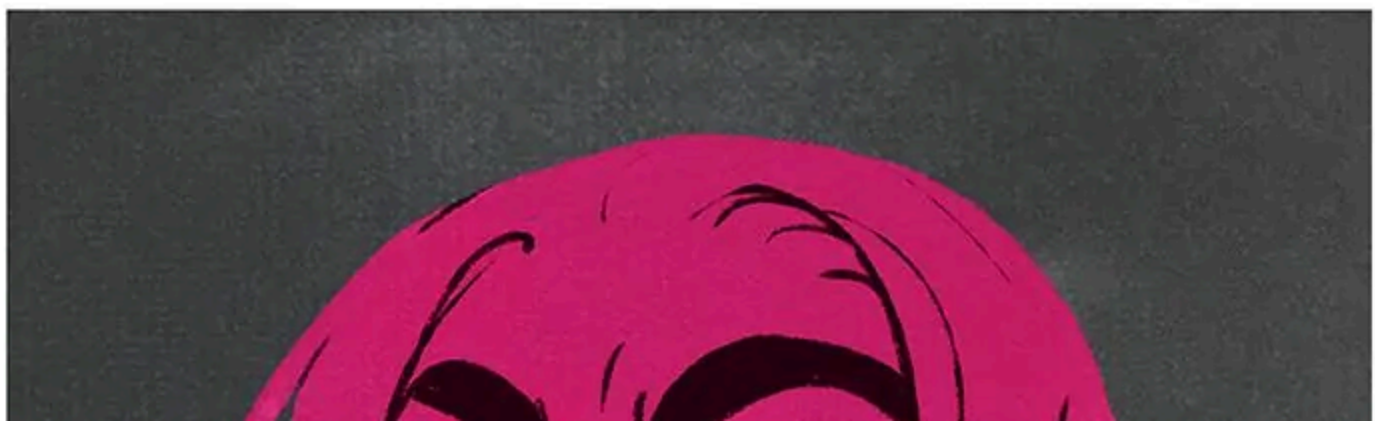








Yes. Yes, she  
does.







The last time I checked, I was  
still Queen of Olympus.









Hera!?





Hera. How nice of  
you to grace us with  
your divine presence.







I have a way for  
Persephone to gain access  
to Tartarus.





You're lying.  
Pathetic.







You are the one  
trying to force marriage on  
someone who so obviously  
despises you



and holding everyone  
ransom to your nonsense



with this ridiculous  
broadcast.



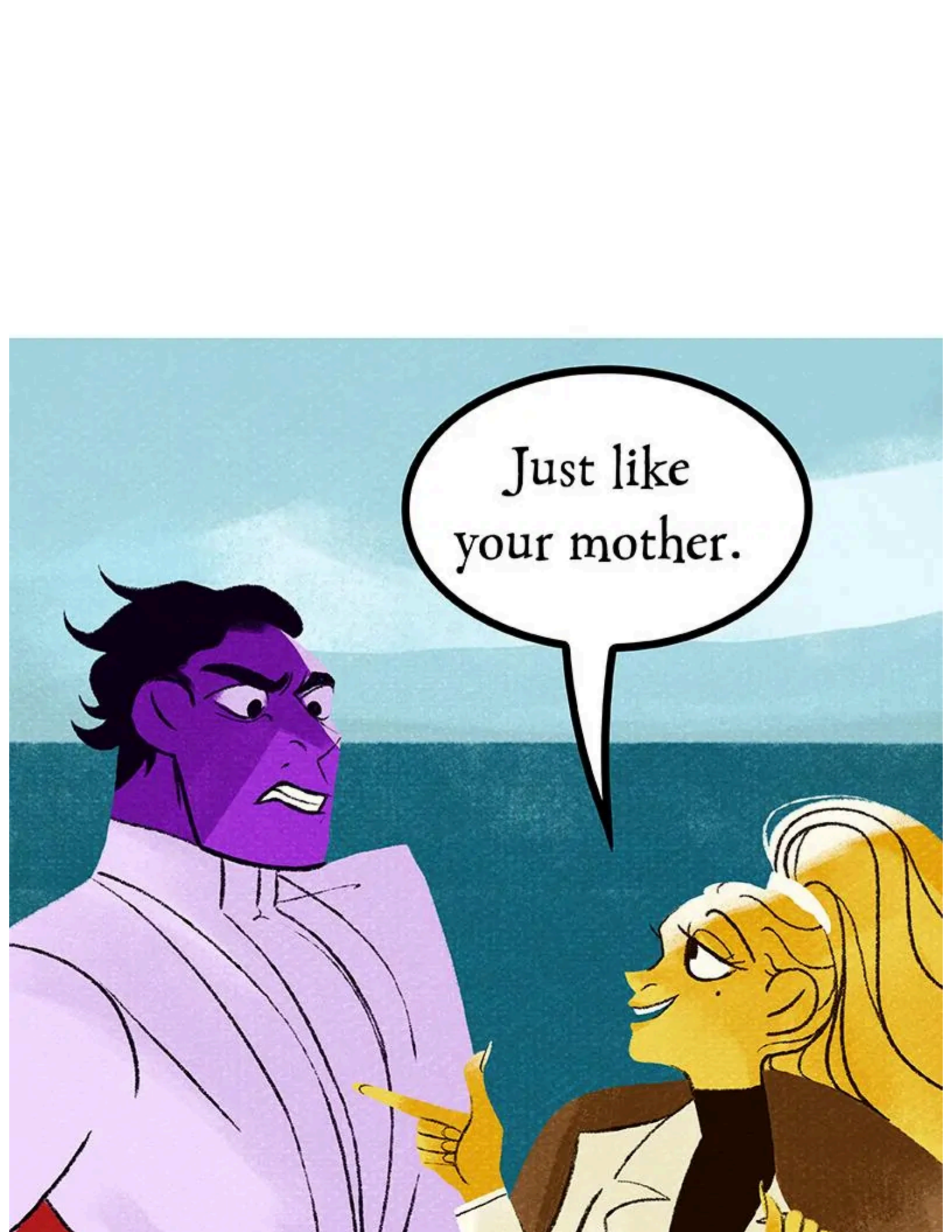


It's really  
very tacky.









Just like  
your mother.





When I'm in  
charge, I'm going to  
make your life  
miserable.









That's what they  
all say.





Alright then, what are  
you planning?

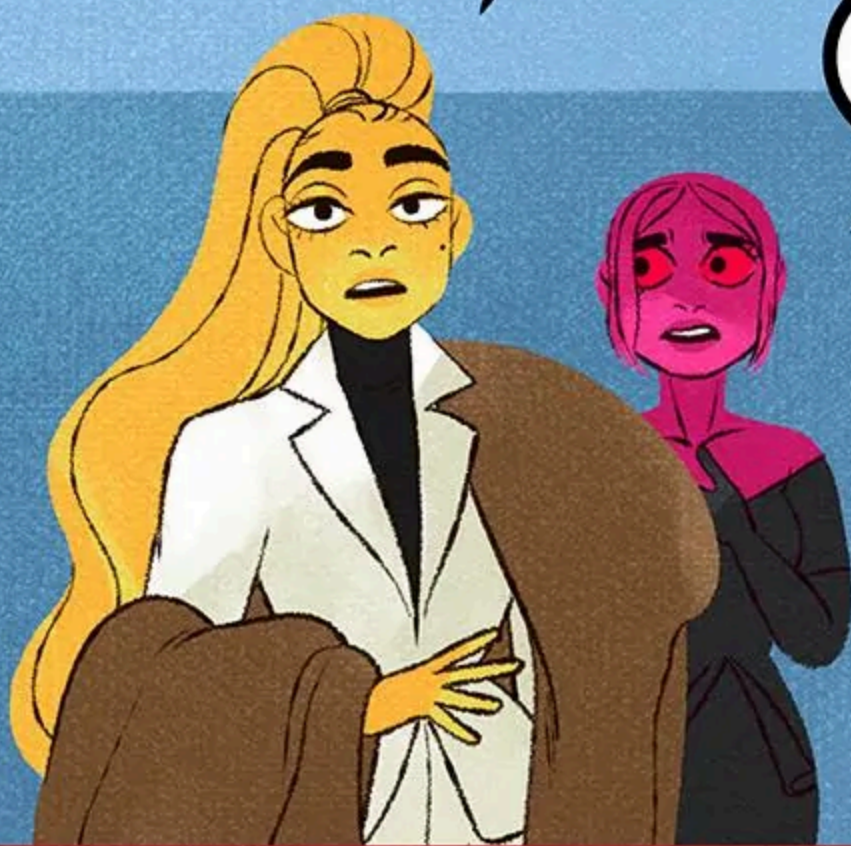




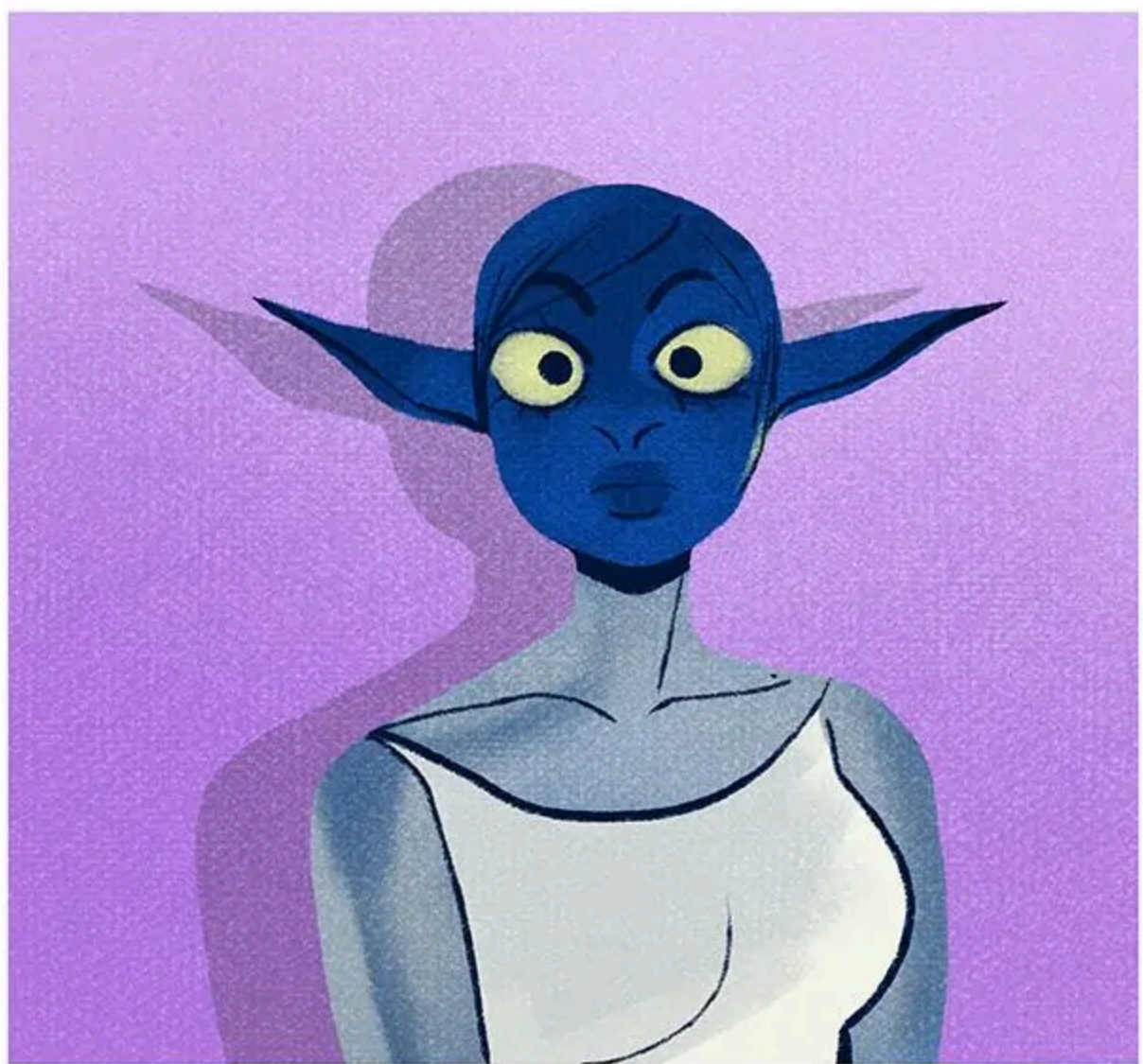


Kronos will open  
Tartarus for me.

Hera...





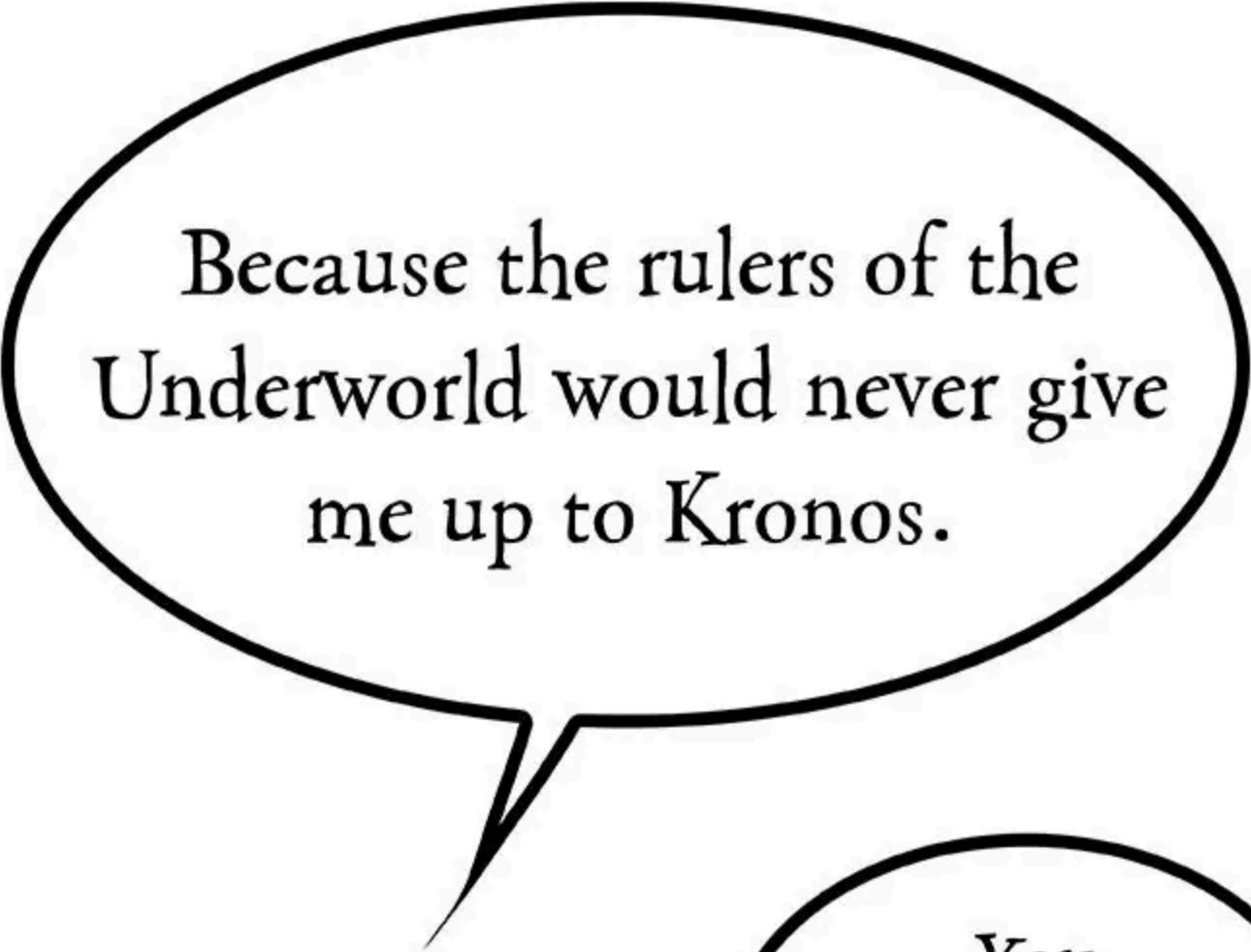


Why is this the first  
we're hearing of this?











Because the rulers of the  
Underworld would never give  
me up to Kronos.

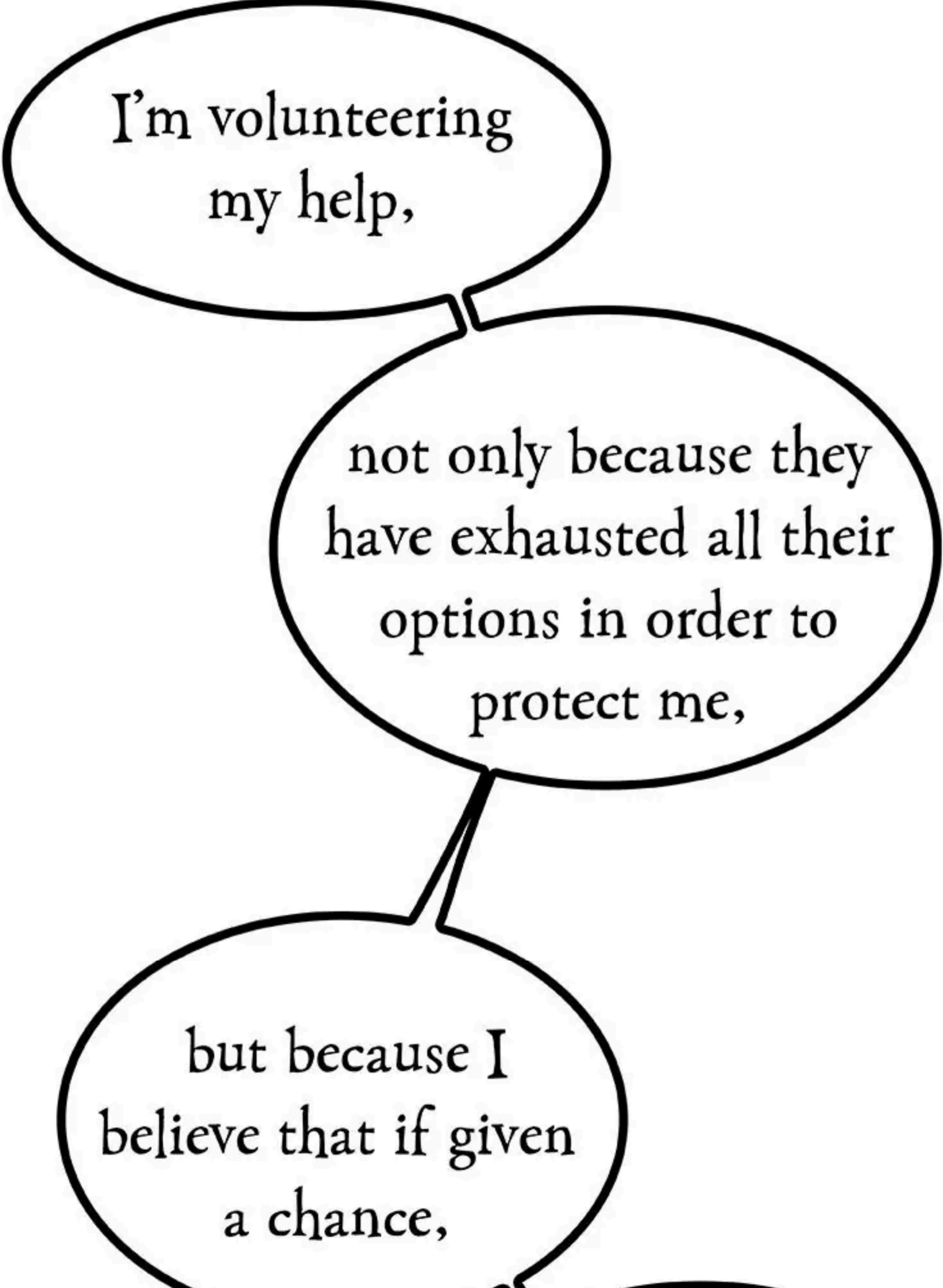


*You  
don't have to  
do this.*









I'm volunteering  
my help,

not only because they  
have exhausted all their  
options in order to  
protect me,

but because I  
believe that if given  
a chance,



Persephone can  
fix this.





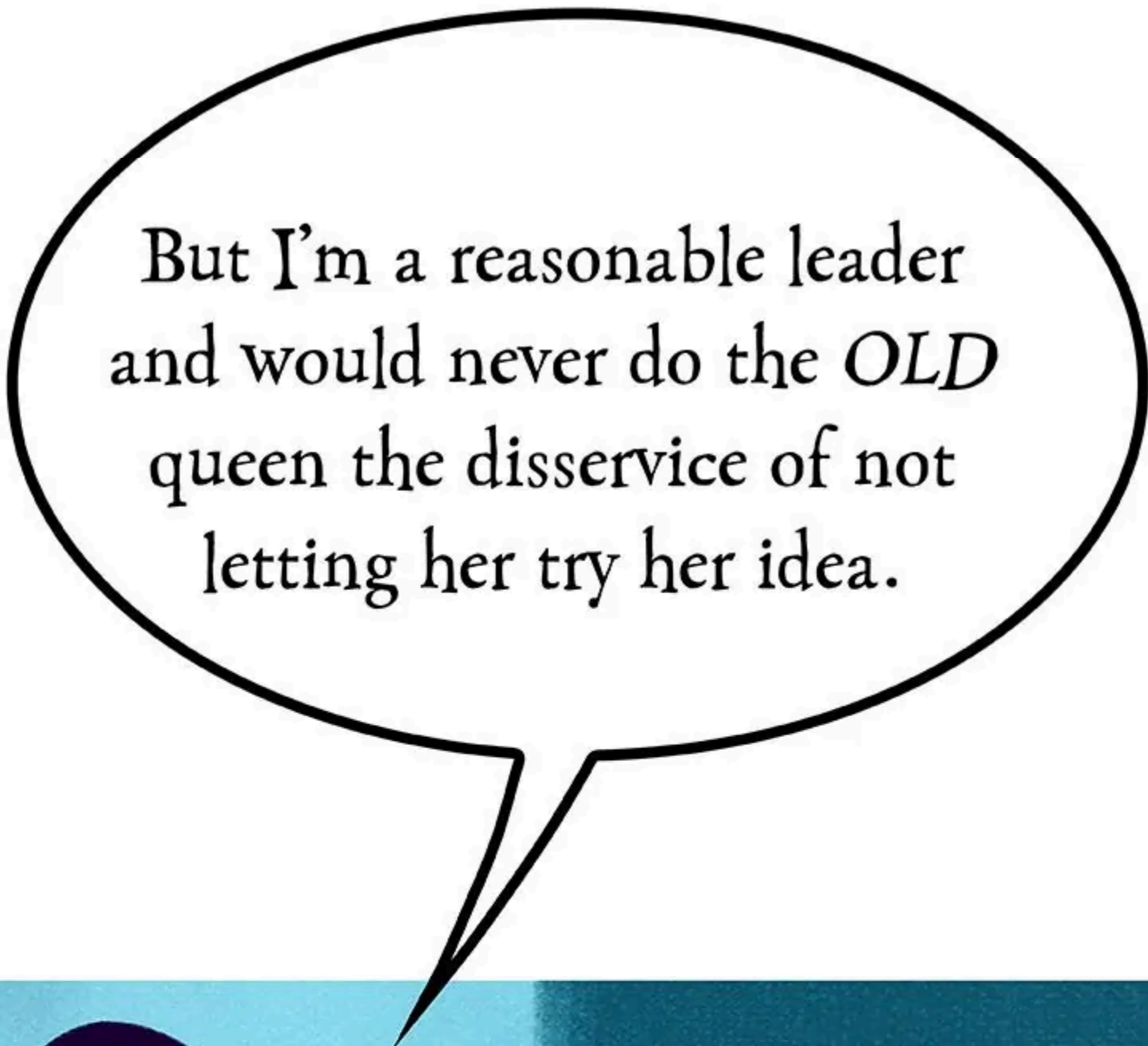




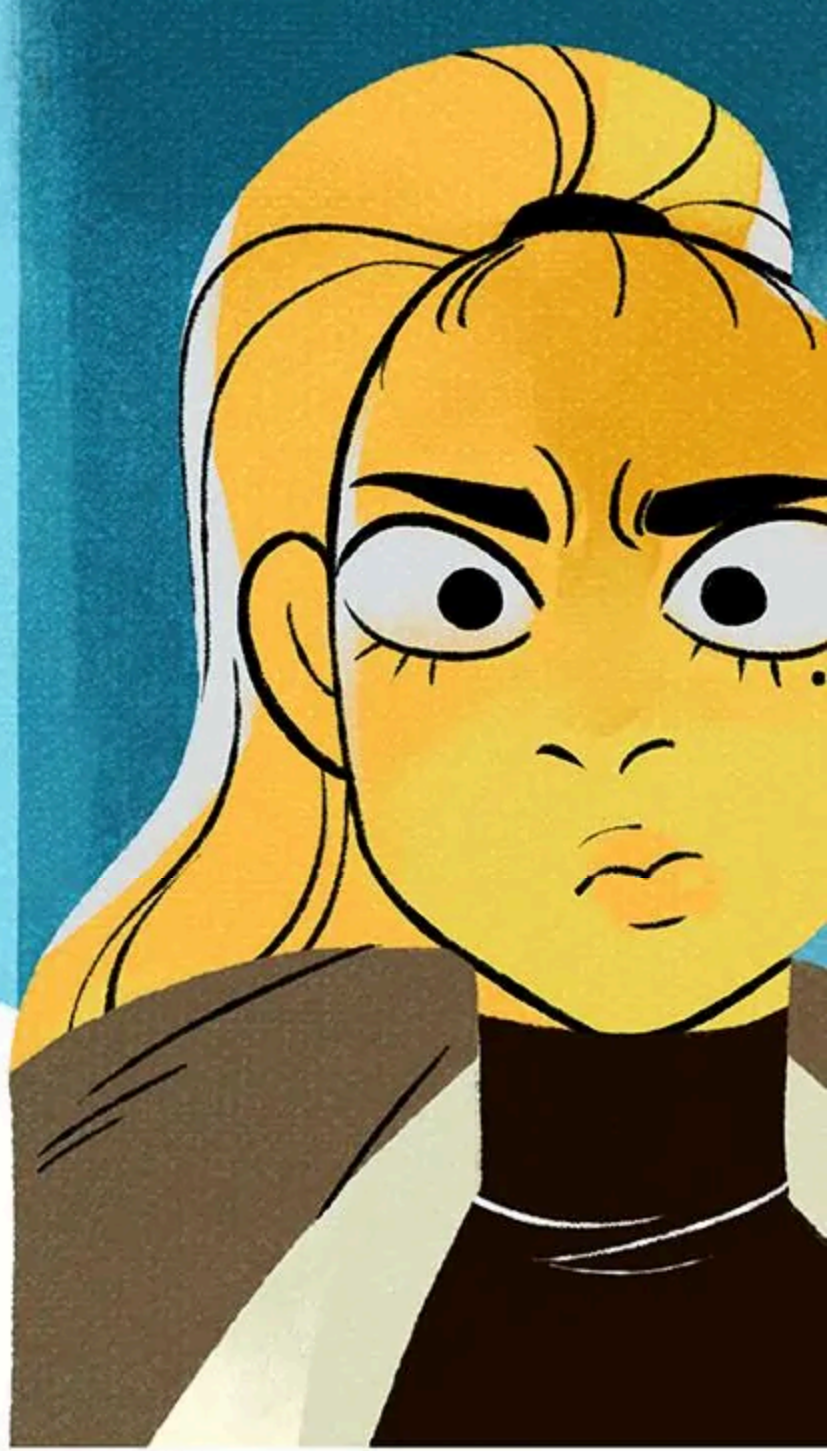
Given that I have a solution now, I don't see why exploring yet another dead end is necessary.







But I'm a reasonable leader  
and would never do the *OLD*  
queen the disservice of not  
letting her try her idea.





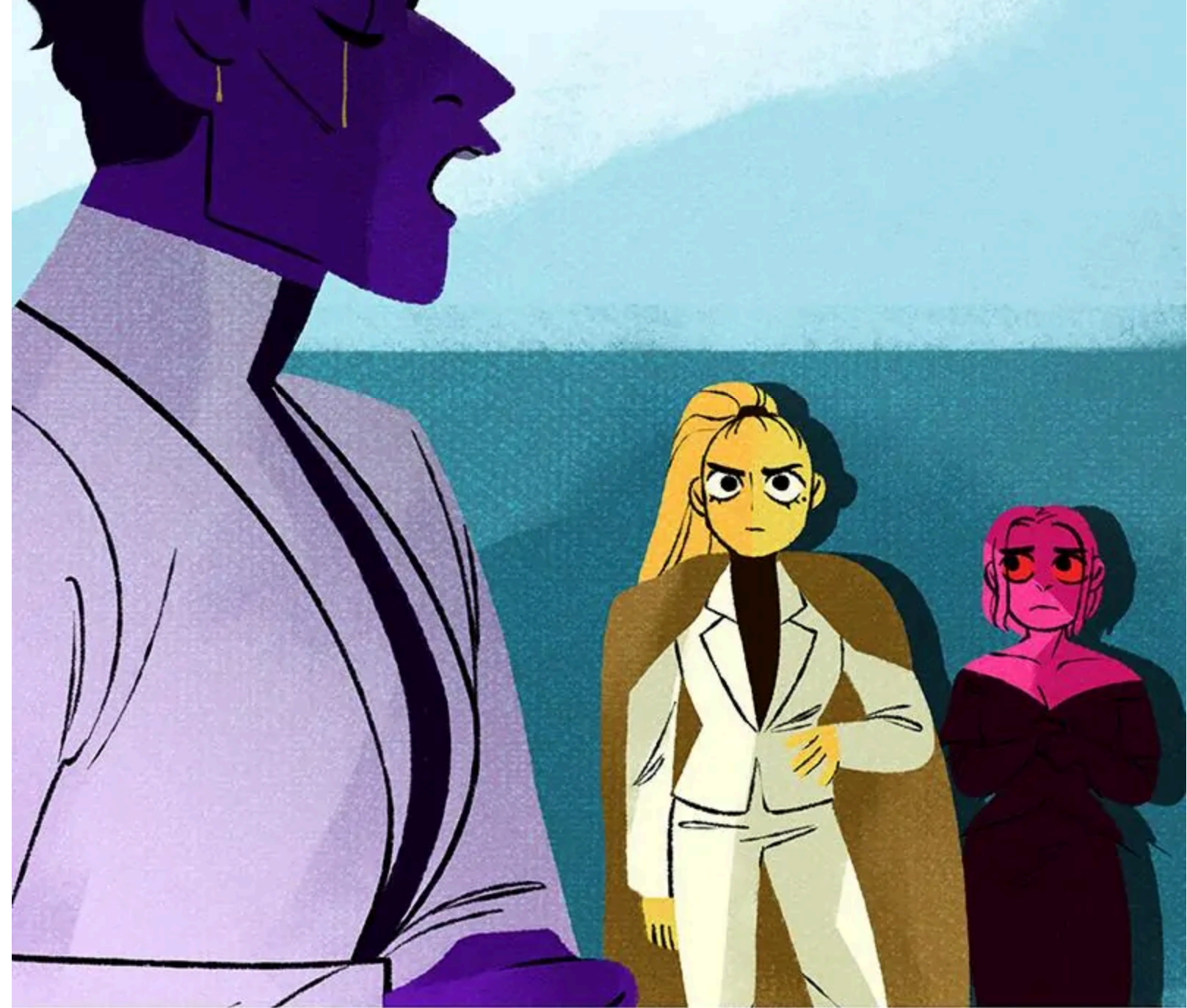
No matter how  
folly it may be.




You've got twenty-four hours, and when you're done failing, you can march right back to Olympus and accept your fate.





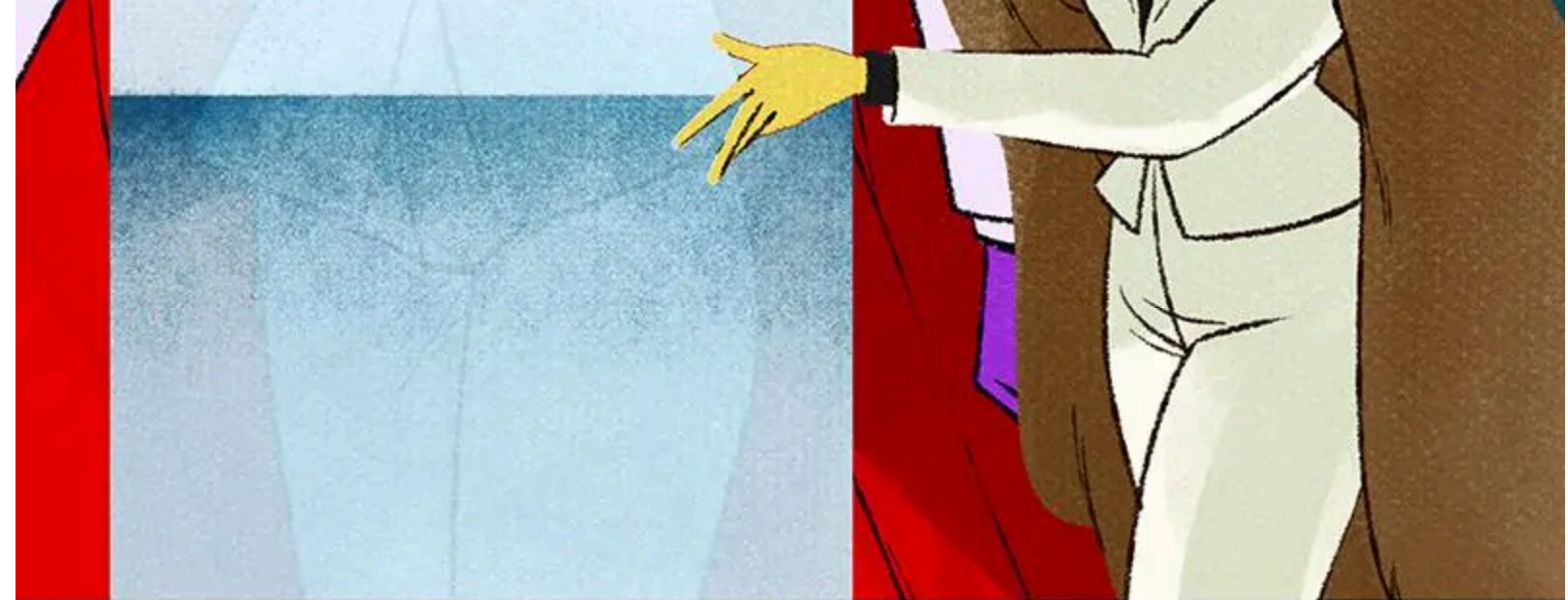






Oh, we can  
do it in twelve.

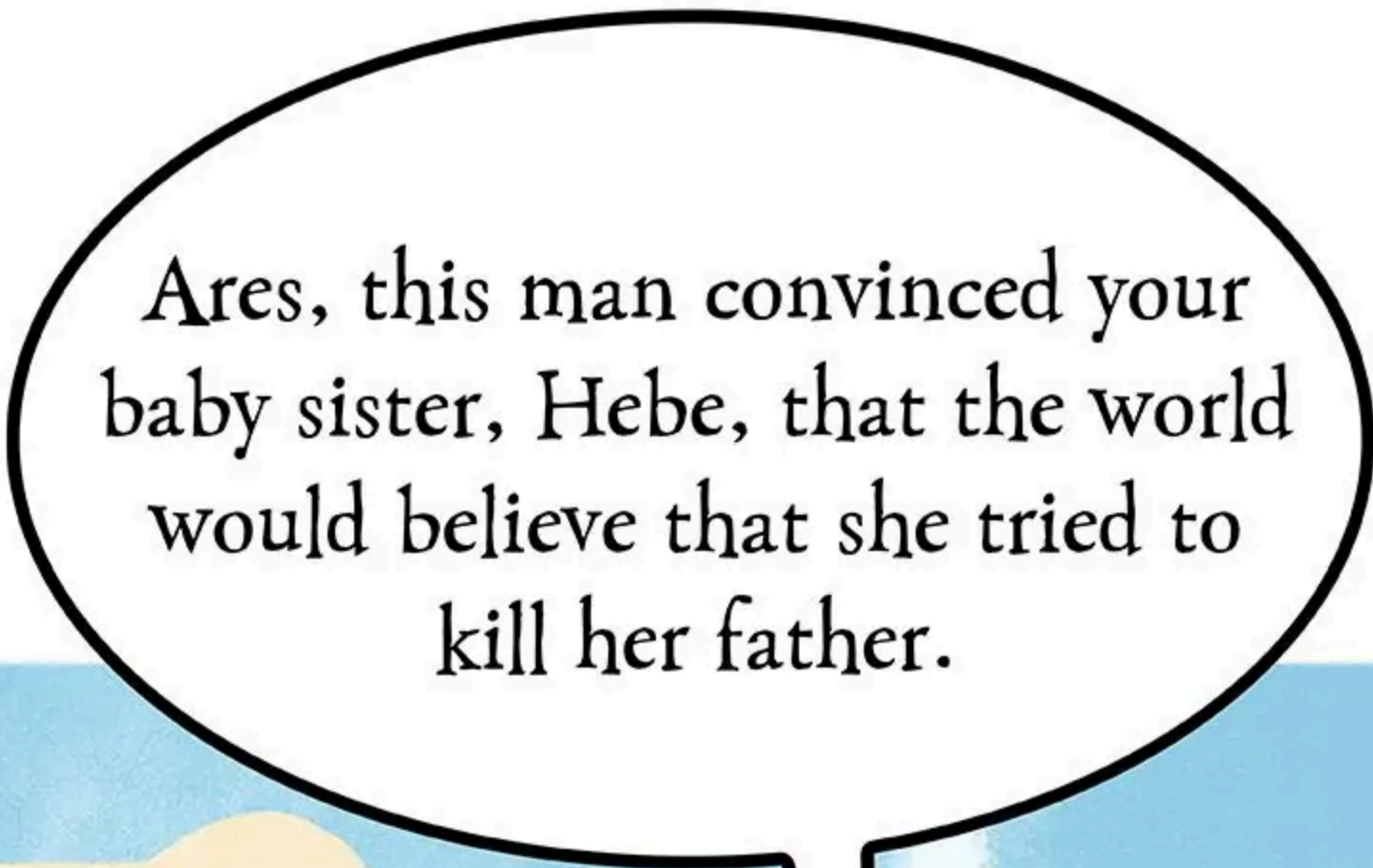




And before  
we leave,







Ares, this man convinced your baby sister, Hebe, that the world would believe that she tried to kill her father.





She was so frightened that  
she ran away from home and  
was discovered passed out in  
the snowy fields of the  
Mortal Realm.







Let's go,  
Persephone.

Wait.





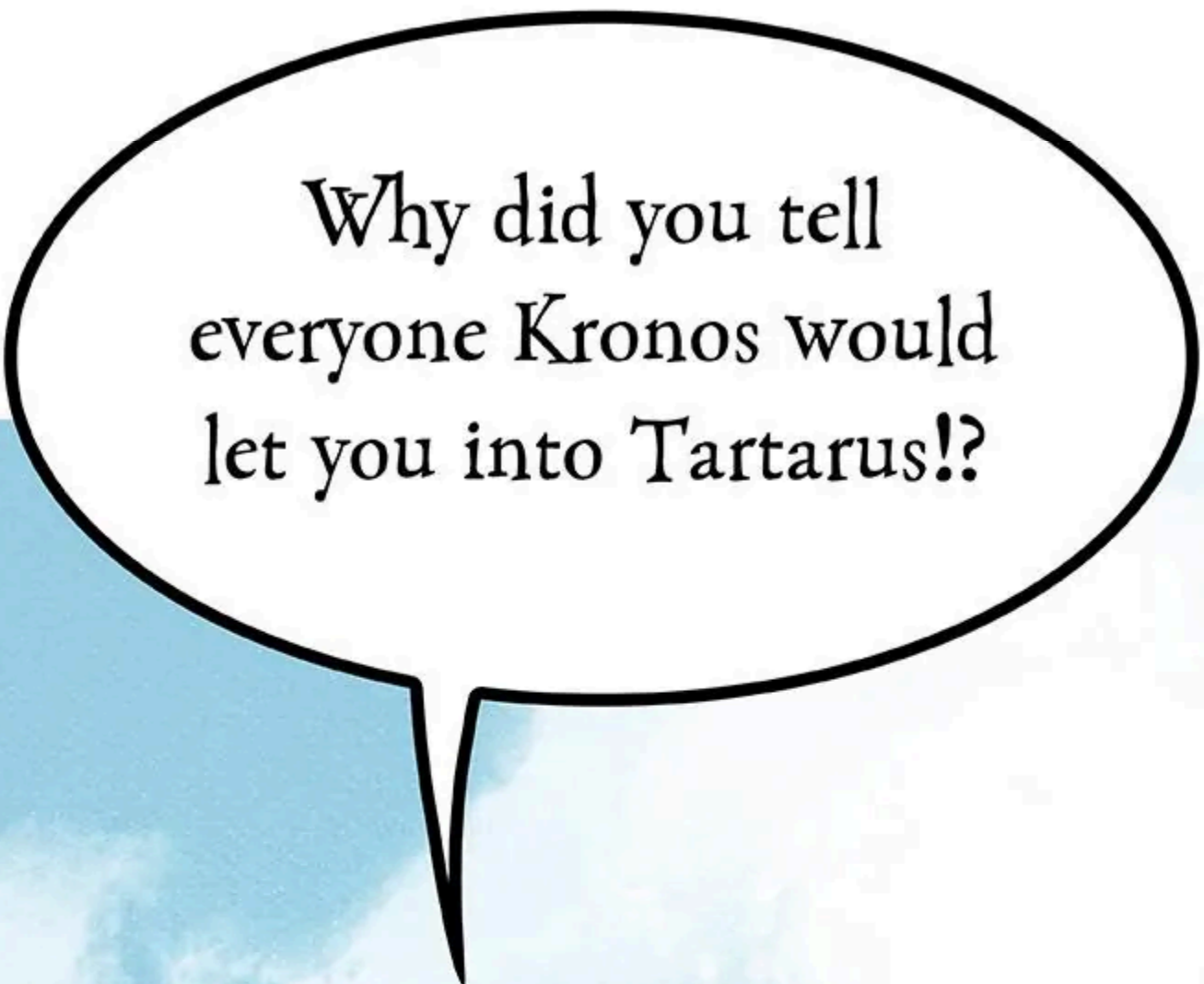


Gentlemen,  
surely we can  
discuss this.

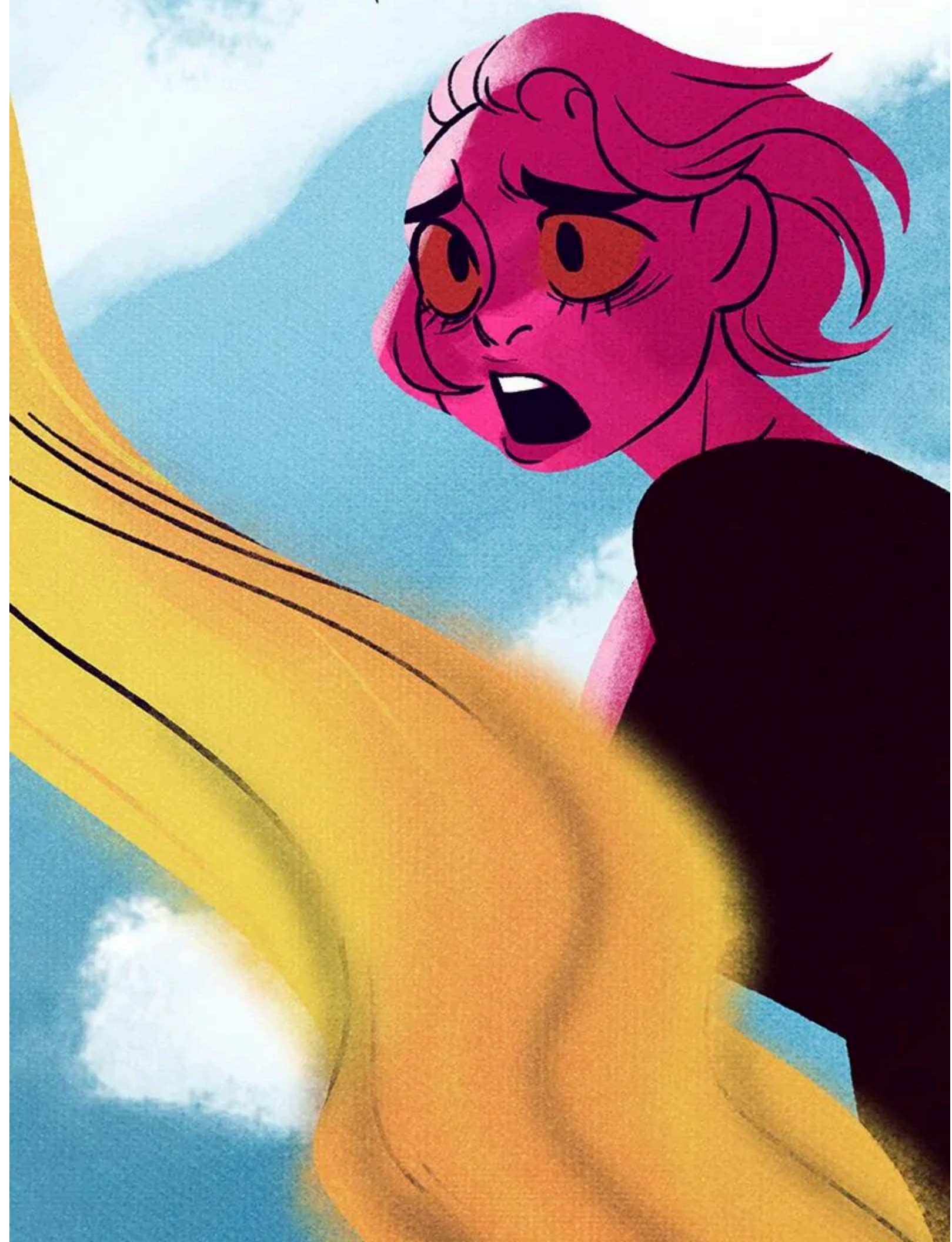








Why did you tell  
everyone Kronos would  
let you into Tartarus!?







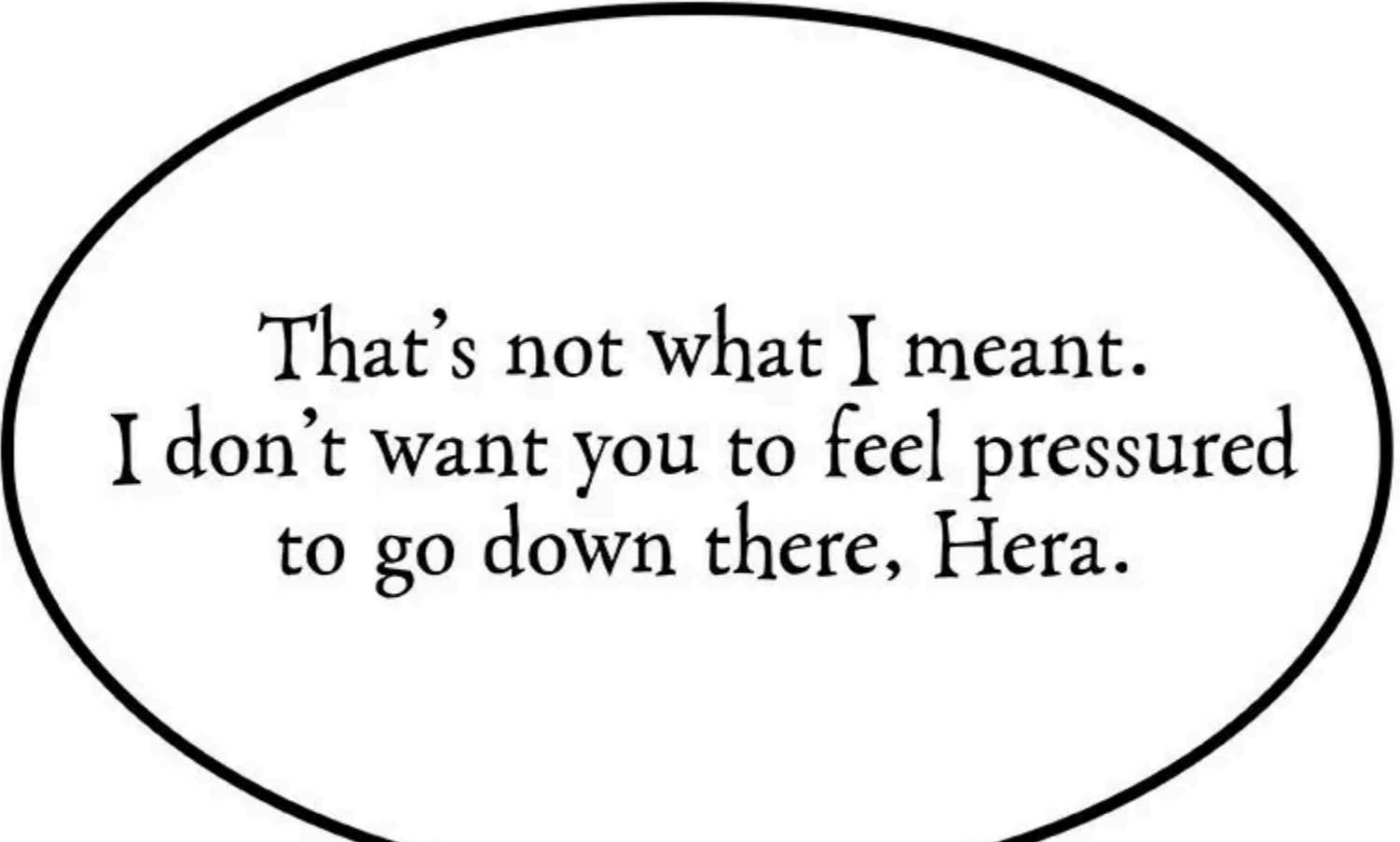
Because it's true, and  
it's the only way for  
you to get down



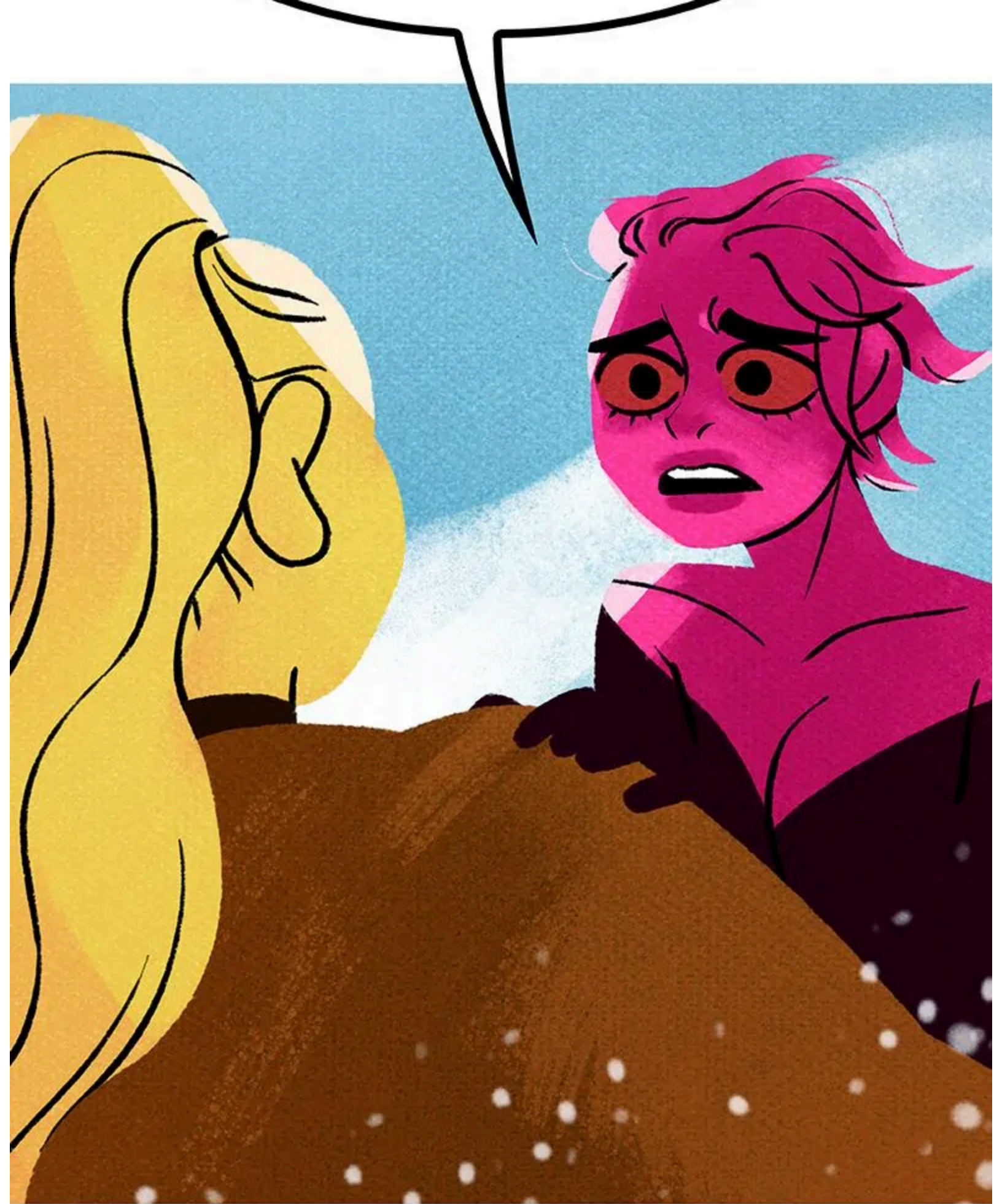
there.








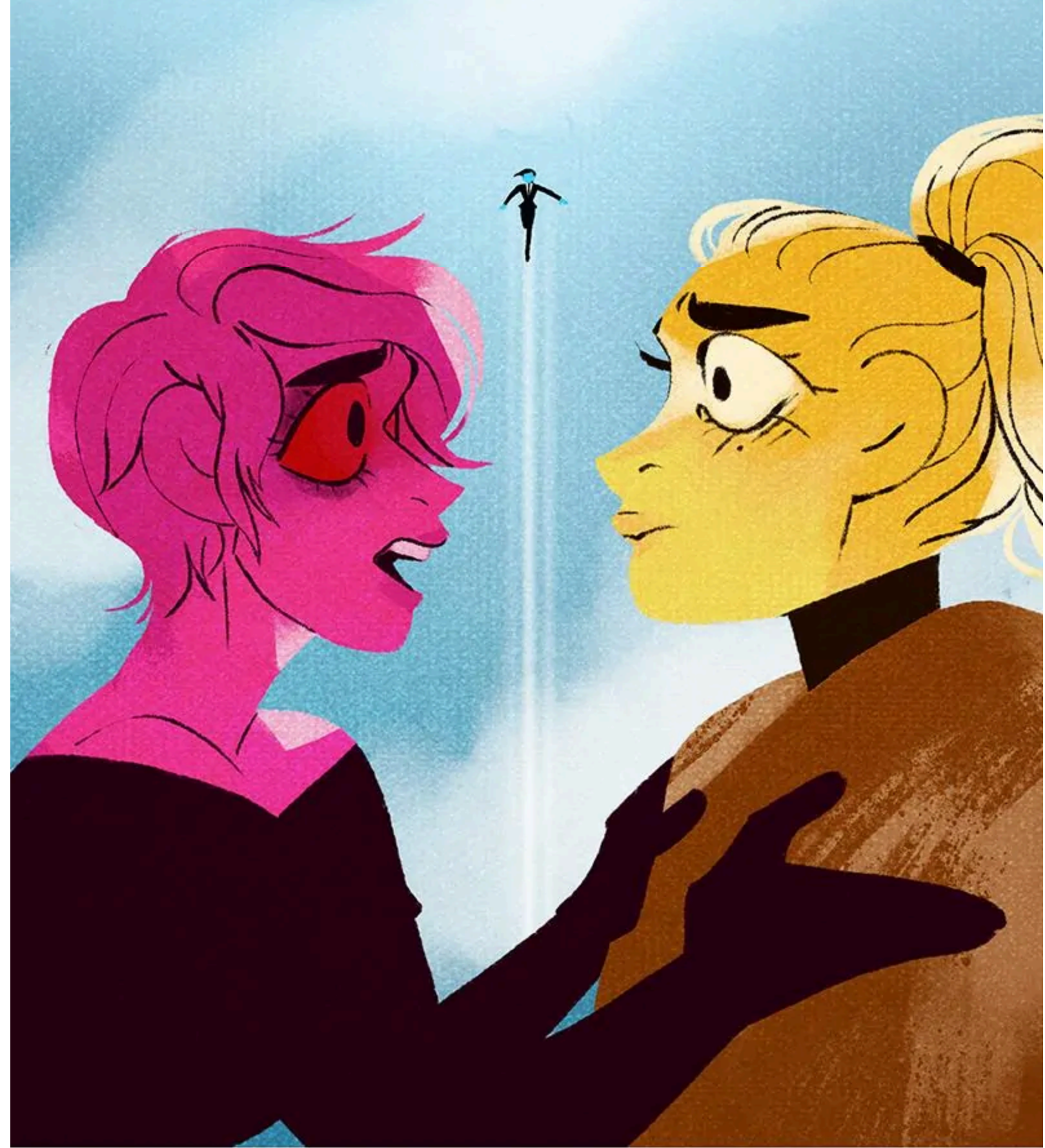
That's not what I meant.  
I don't want you to feel pressured  
to go down there, Hera.







I just lost Hades to  
Kronos; I don't need  
a repeat.





Do you have any idea  
what happened?





Twelve  
hours!?







Are you kidding  
me, Hera?







What?

It's doable.





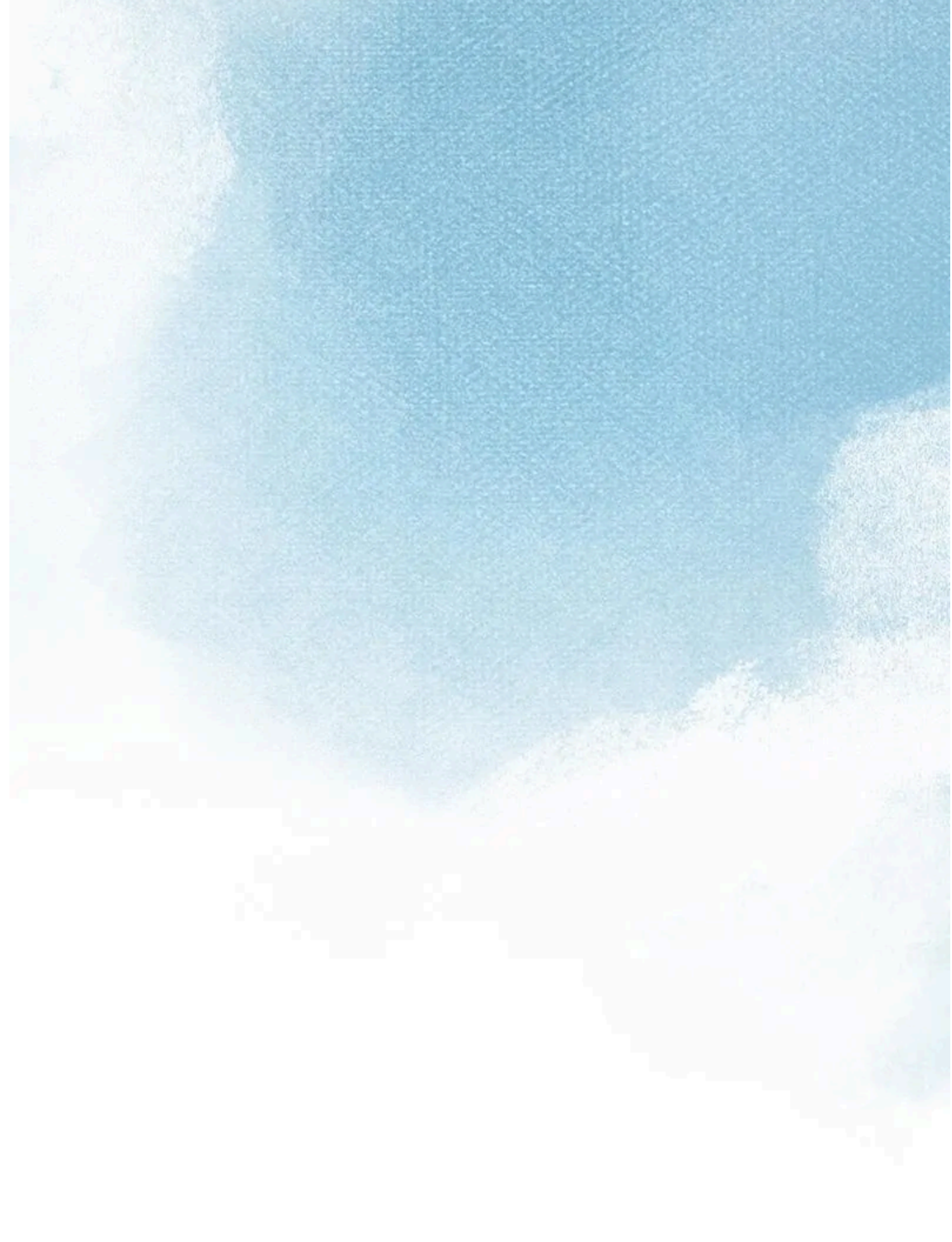
Twelve  
hours.


You do not have time to  
float around in the sky.  
You can chat about the  
state of things on your

journey to Kronos!





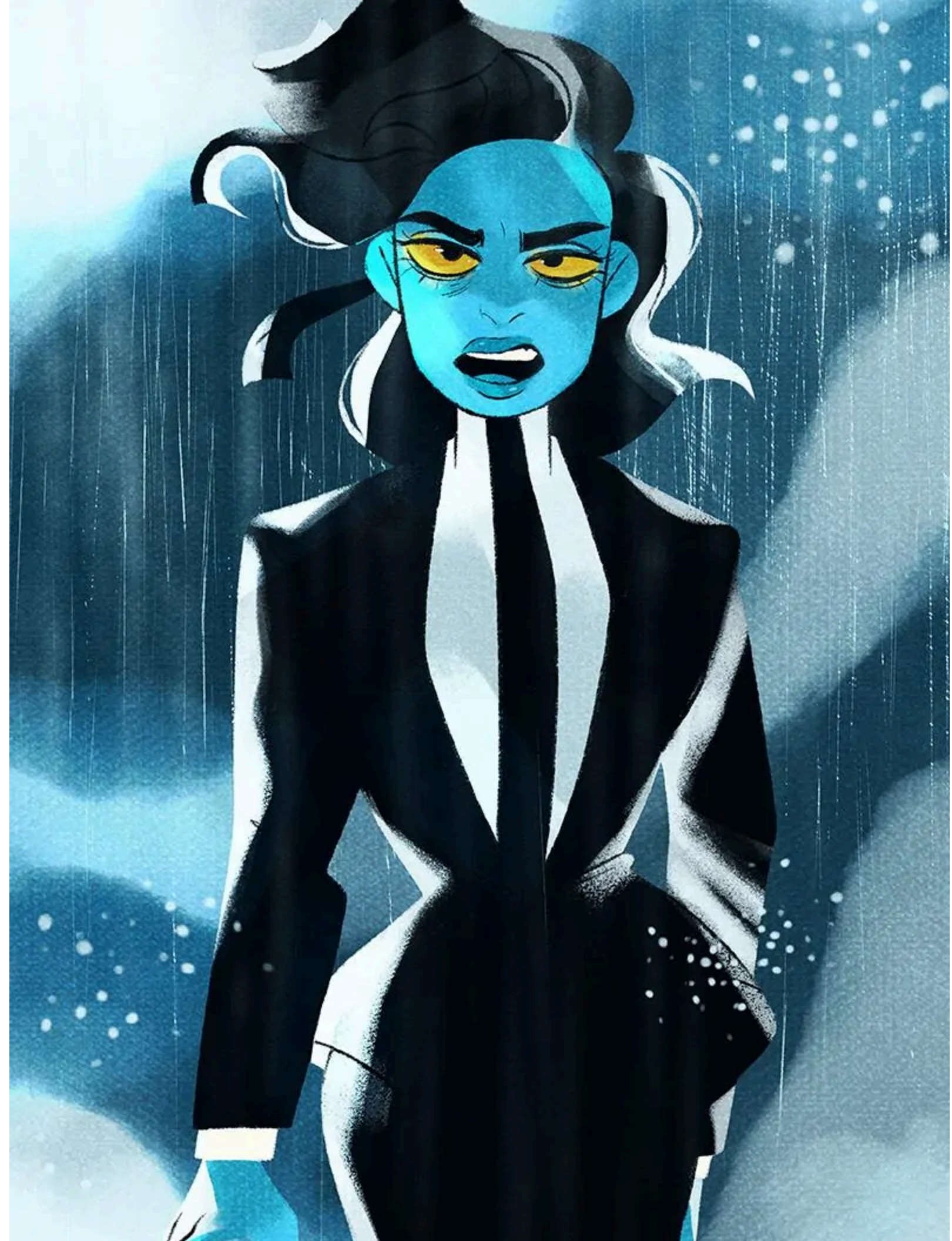




Take thirty, do  
what you gotta do,

and meet me down  
at the gateway to  
old Tartarus.



















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**TIKTOK | LOREOLYMPUSOFFICIAL**



FOR INFORMATION ON PHYSICAL PRINTS OF LORE OLYMPUS,  
PLEASE VISIT [WWW.LOREOLYMPUSBOOKS.COM](http://WWW.LOREOLYMPUSBOOKS.COM)

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